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## New Hill residents feel dumped on

Shawn Daley  
Editor  
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New Hill residents are looking for answers and they are hoping to find them next week.

An informational meeting focusing on plans to build a wastewater treatment plant in the heart of the community is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14 from 4-8 p.m. at Apex Fire Station No. 2.

Most New Hill residents just recently discovered that Cary was in the process of carrying out plans to condemn 200 acres of land along old U.S. 1 to make room for the plant.

Cary, however, is not acting alone. Apex, Holly Springs and Morrisville are all partners in the regional plant and have a voice where the facility will be built.

“Cary is responsible for preparing documents and meeting the legal requirements needed to condemn land,” said Cary Public Information Officer Susan Moran. “We are the largest of the four communities and we have more experience in these matters so we are out in front.

“But there are four jurisdictions involved – Cary, Apex, Morrisville and Holly Springs. All the partners have to agree. This is a joint decision.”

Moran said Cary is condemning the land because the owners are unwilling to sell it. She stressed that state law gives the town the authority to take such action.

Just because the law allows it, say New Hill residents, doesn't make it right.

They believe the four towns did not make a significant attempt to notify residents of their plans.

“That is why we feel so violated,” said New Hill resident Carolyn Sink. “There seems to be just a small group of people who knew about it and they are the ones railroading it through.

“The owners of the land considered as alternate sites were never notified. It took other residents who found out about it to tell them. There is a sense of being deceived and there is a lot of hurt in this community.”

“We were left out of the process entirely,” said New Hill resident John Brubaker. “There is a lot of anger and frustration. We feel as though the powers that be aren’t interested in our input.

“There is already a lot of distrust in our community over what Cary does. Now we have this situation where we find out a wastewater plant is going to be built just two weeks before the land is to be condemned.”

Moran defended her town’s actions and said information was available to the public at a website ([www.westernwakepartners.org](http://www.westernwakepartners.org)) designed for the four partners.

Apex Town Manager Bruce Radford, however, said more should have been done to notify the residents about the proposed plant.

“I wish we had done a better job of having some public participation over the selection process,” said Radford. “I hope we will give people the answers they are looking for on June 14 and hopefully they will feel better about the site.”

Although the plant is being built in New Hill residents won’t be allowed to use it unless they are annexed by Apex.

“It’s a win-lose situation,” said Brubaker. “The citizens in Apex, Cary, Holly Springs and Morrisville are the winners. The citizens of New Hill are the losers.”