

Masthead

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## **New Hill's future**

People who live in rural areas on the fringe of growth hotspots such as Apex and Cary should know that they're always at risk of having their lifestyle rudely interrupted. Development abhors a vacuum, after all. But there can't be many kinds of development that will make prospective neighbors' hearts sink lower than a sewage treatment plant.

That's what residents of New Hill, a crossroads community on Old Route 1, are up against. Four western Wake County towns - Apex, Cary, Morrisville and Holly Springs - chose New Hill for a new sewage treatment facility, and folks there had little say in the matter.

Besides adding to capacity, the plant will serve a worthy purpose in keeping water within the Cape Fear River basin from which it has been drawn (via Jordan Lake). But officials still should be mindful of how such a facility could affect New Hill if it is plopped down close to its humble center. The recent completion of a required environmental impact statement cannot become a green light toward construction that would sacrifice New Hill's character and residents' enjoyment of their homes.