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## **New Hill receives grant to continue battle**

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New Hill residents recently received a financial boost in the ongoing battle to keep a regional sewage plant out of the heart of their community.

The Southern Coalition for Social Justice won a \$10,000 grant from the Impact Fund on behalf of the New Hill Community Association.

The grant will be used to support potential litigation opposing the Western Wake Partners proposed placement of a sewage treatment plant in the center of New Hill.

“We will continue to fight the placement of this facility in our community through lobbying, organizing, and, if necessary, litigation,” said New Hill Community Association President, Paul Barth. “This welcome support from the Impact Fund only adds to the resources at our disposal.”

Based in California, the Impact Fund provides support for litigation to achieve economic and social justice. The grant will supplement community and SCSJ resources in support of litigation should it prove necessary to combat the siting of the sewage treatment plant.

“This sewage treatment plant would unfairly burden our predominantly African-American community for the benefit of the predominantly white affluent communities of Cary, Apex, Holly Springs and Morrisville,” said Rev. James E. Clanton of New Hill First Baptist Church and a leader in the NHCA. Chris Brook, staff attorney at the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, noted that the Western Wake Partners “too frequently” excluded New Hill residents from the decision-making process when choosing a site for the plant.

“Alternative sites with far fewer impacts on predominantly African-American neighborhoods and the entire New Hill community have not been thoroughly evaluated,” said Brook. “The impacts of the 38 million gallon per day discharge into the Cape Fear River have not been adequately considered.”

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