

Amy Harvey

From: Carol Abernethy .
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2007 3:54 PM
To: 'doherty@med.unc.edu'
Cc: JB Culpepper; Bill Strom; Bill Thorpe; Cam Hill; Ed Harrison; Jim Ward; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Laurin Easthom; Mark Kleinschmidt; Sally Greene (w); Adam Schaefer; Catherine Lazorko; Roger Stancil; Sabrina Oliver; Sandy Kline; Bruce Heflin; Flo Miller; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph
Subject: Email FW: Expansion in north-west Chapel Hill
Attachments: 1. Doherty letter on Work Session.doc

Thank you for your email. A copy has been forwarded to each Council Member and to senior staff members.

Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill

From: Doherty, Irene [mailto:doherty@med.unc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2007 3:03 PM
To: Town Council
Cc: Del Snow
Subject: Expansion in north-west Chapel Hill

Dear Mayor –

Please see the attached letter that expresses my concerns about the growth of the northern neighborhoods in our lovely town.

Sincerely
Irene Doherty

Irene Doherty, PhD
Research Assistant Professor

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March 6, 2007

Dear Mayor,

Although I was not able attend the entire council meeting on February 21 (due to small children), I did speak with the developers of the Altemueller Property. They have proposed adding two banks to the property, which I questioned them about. I informed them that we already have three banks at the Weaver Dairy/Martin Luther King intersection, with another soon to open, including one in Harris Teeter, Wachovia and Bank of America (in Timberlyne). The fourth, Harrington Bank, is opening further south on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. They responded that the state worker's credit union (or something like that) expressed interest in adding a branch to this property because it will be convenient for the large number of state employees who will be working in Chapel Hill North.

I also expressed concern about the traffic, specifically for cars heading north on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. who will want to turn left into their property. They responded with something like "There is a traffic light there, so it won't cause problems." They didn't say that there would be a left-hand turn lane; without it, there will definitely be backups.

I also told them there has been an increase in traffic along Martin Luther King between Estes Drive and Downtown. They were not at all receptive to my concern because that traffic is not near their piece of Martin Luther King. Their tunnel vision disturbed me.

It became clear to me that developers (or at least this group) are capitalizing on the impending Carolina North development. Thus, as Del Snow and other area residents have expressed, the piecemeal development of this area is likely to create congestion in unexpected ways because "the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing." The developers care only about their slice of our lovely town.

Given this avalanche of development, it is critical that you and the Town Council put together a cohesive plan to prevent the chaos that will soon unfold.

Sincerely,

Irene A Doherty
106 Tremont Circle
Chapel Hill NC 27516