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ORANGE COUNTY
HILLSBOROUGH
NORTH CAROLINA

RECEIVED MAY 04 2007
ATTACHMENT 1

Manager's Office

Established 1752

April 27, 2007

The Honorable Kevin Foy, Mayor
Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Dear Kevin:

Orange County is working with deliberate speed to develop the municipal waste transfer station on landfill property on Eubanks Road. This letter is to request Town assistance in this development process by authorizing an expedited review process for our transfer station project. Specifically, we are requesting that the Town provide assistance to identify and advance opportunities within your purview that might move Concept Plan Review, Rezoning, and Special Use Permitting elements of the process forward in a timely manner.

The Orange County Landfill is currently projected to reach capacity sometime in mid to late 2010. A survey is currently underway to refine the remaining capacity estimations. Previous Board of Commissioner discussions on this subject indicated a desire to develop the transfer station as soon as possible in order to open the new facility prior to the landfill reaching capacity in order to utilize that remaining capacity as a hedge against unfavorable transfer hauling and disposal bid proposals, to delay the expenditures for landfill closure to allow the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund to accumulate the necessary funds, as well as to maintain some capacity for special wastes that are problematic for transfer stations, such as dead animals, etc. Additionally, given expressed local community concerns and interests in this project, the final Board of Commissioner siting decision was delayed in order to consider and respond to these neighborhood concerns in a substantive manner, further delaying the project. We believe it is possible that the transfer station could be developed, excepting unforeseen substantive delays, with as much as six months of landfill capacity remaining.

The transfer station project will also include the relocation of the Solid Waste Convenience Center and relocation of some of the existing landfill/transfer station ancillary facilities such as equipment parking, collection vehicle parking, above ground diesel fuel tank, etc. The high level of community interest in this project requires us to try to allow maximum construction time to periodically collaborate with the neighboring community and to deliver a final product that will be consistent with community standards and requests.

Thank you for your consideration of the request to expedite review of this project. We believe that the public interest would be better served by Town and County cooperation and collaboration on this project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura E. Blackmon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "L" and "B".

Laura Blackmon, Orange County Manager

cc: Roger Stancil, Town Manager
Gayle Wilson, Orange County Solid Waste Director