



City of Reidsville

230 W. Morehead Street • Reidsville, North Carolina 27320 • (336) 349-1030 • Fax (336) 342-3649

James K. Festerman
MAYOR

September 27, 2007

Mr. Harold Bass, Chairman
Rockingham County Board of Commissioners
1981 Worsham Mill Road
Ruffin, NC 27326

Dear Harold:

On behalf of the Reidsville City Council and the City of Reidsville, I want to express our strong opposition to the proposed rezoning of approximately 700 acres adjacent to the Haw River State Park on the Rockingham County-Guilford County line when it comes before the Rockingham County Commissioners. I'm sure you're very familiar with the issues so I won't take time to repeat those, but let me briefly say that our concerns are twofold.

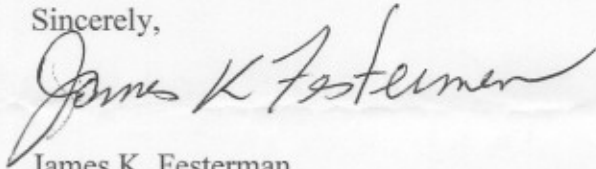
First of all, as you know, tourism and eco-tourism have been identified as a major growth possibility for Rockingham County as we seek to rebuild our economy after the loss of so many textile- and tobacco-related jobs. The Haw River State Park holds a great deal of promise to address this goal, and we have supported its development from the very beginning as I believe the Rockingham County Commissioners do. Anything that negatively impacts both the present State Park and the possibility of its expansion cannot be good for Reidsville or Rockingham County.

Secondly, while we do not draw our public drinking water from the Haw River, we do discharge our wastewater into the Haw River at a point southeast of Reidsville. We relocated this discharge point approximately eight years ago out of concern for the ecology in Little Troublesome Creek and as a result of the low flow in that stream. Our discharge limits at that point in the Haw River are very tight. Any diminished flow in the Haw River could have a devastating and costly effect on Reidsville's wastewater treatment plant operations. As we understand it, the proposed development could potentially draw 100,000 gallons a day out of the Haw River in order to water their golf course. I'm afraid this would just be the start of it, and it would lead to further withdrawals along the river that could severely affect the City.

We are all vitally concerned about what happens in Rockingham County. As elected officials, we are all concerned about the future of our citizens. I hope that you will take this into consideration and vote "no" on the proposed rezoning when it comes before the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James K. Festerman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

James K. Festerman
Mayor
City of Reidsville

JKF/ags

cc: Tom Robinson, Rockingham County Manager



City of Reidsville

230 W. Morehead Street • Reidsville, North Carolina 27320 • (336) 349-1030 • Fax (336) 342-3649

James K. Festerman
MAYOR

September 27, 2007

Mr. Paul Gibson, Chairman
Guilford County Board of Commissioners
3402 Cloverdale Drive
Greensboro, NC 27408

Dear Chairman Gibson:

On behalf of the Reidsville City Council and the City of Reidsville, let me express our strong opposition to the proposed rezoning of approximately 700 acres adjacent to the Haw River State Park on the Rockingham County-Guilford County line. I know that you've received many contacts on both sides of this question, and I'm sure you're very familiar with the issues. I won't take time to repeat those, but let me briefly say that our concerns are twofold.

First of all, tourism and eco-tourism have been identified as a major growth possibility for Rockingham County as we seek to rebuild our economy after the loss of so many textile- and tobacco-related jobs. The Haw River State Park holds a great deal of promise to address this goal, and we have supported its development from the very beginning. Anything that negatively impacts both the present State Park and the possibility of its expansion cannot be good for Rockingham County, Reidsville or northern Guilford County.

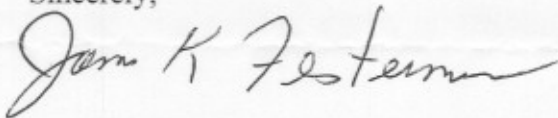
Secondly, while we do not draw our public drinking water from the Haw River, we do discharge our wastewater into the Haw River at a point southeast of Reidsville. We relocated this discharge point approximately eight years ago out of concern for the ecology in Little Troublesome Creek and as a result of the low flow in that stream. Our discharge limits at that point in the Haw River are very tight. Any diminished flow in the Haw River could have a devastating and costly effect on Reidsville's wastewater treatment plant operations. As we understand it, the proposed development could potentially draw 100,000 gallons a day out of the Haw River in order to water their golf course. I'm afraid this would just be the start of it, and it would lead to further withdrawals along the river that could severely affect the City.

Chairman Paul Gibson
September 27, 2007
Page 2

We are vitally concerned about what happens in Guilford County as I know you are concerned about what happens in Rockingham County. As officials in neighboring counties, we both know the importance of strong, collaborative friendships as we seek to look after the futures of our citizens. I hope that you will take this into consideration and vote "no" on the proposed rezoning when it comes before you on October 18th.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James K. Festerman".

James K. Festerman
Mayor
City of Reidsville

JKF/ags

cc: W. David McNeill Jr., County Manager