

**From:** [David McCormick](#)  
**To:** [Rick Taintor](#); [Karen Edwards](#)  
**Subject:** College Brook Flooding on Chesley Drive  
**Date:** Friday, June 19, 2020 8:56:16 AM

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Dear planning board members,

My name is David McCormick and I live at 5 Chesley Drive in Durham. I am writing to you to ask that you reconsider your acceptance of the storm water review for the Mill Road Plaza. I have lived at 5 Chesley Drive for almost 6 years and in that time flooding of College Brook has been a constant issue. If we have heavy or prolonged rain the brook floods to the top. During most heavy storms the water overflows into the yard. In October of 2016 the brook flooded to within feet of our house. This is not just a little standing water either. It is a raging brook that has caused considerable erosion to our property. The brook sits in a wide and deep trench full of exposed roots, rocks and areas where soil has collapsed in.

If you look at College brook upstream before the plaza it's a small meandering brook. After the plaza it's wide and deep. All storm water and snow from the plaza is either washed or pushed into College Brook creating a deluge for us downstream. Weekly, I pull trash out of the brook. Bottles, traffic cones, diapers, cans, food wrappers just to name a few.

On July 20, 2019 I emailed Mike Lynch with my concerns about flooding in our yard. A few days later Mike stopped by to check the yard out. He told me that the flooding was most definitely caused by the plaza and he assured me that any redevelopment of the plaza would include wastewater management. He specifically said that any new construction would require collection, filtering, and slow release of storm water. It was the rule and that it would have to be applied. Once this was fixed we wouldn't have flooding issues any more.

I am not someone who frequents planning board meetings because I've always trusted that the board has the best interest of the residents of Durham in mind. When I heard that you are not going to hold CDA responsible for the damage they've already done and allowing them to make it substantially worse I lost that faith. Isn't it your jobs to protect the homeowners from this very kind of thing? I realize that we are a small house on a small street and compared to CDA we don't have endless resources to fight this. We have you. Please reconsider.

I'm including some pictures of the brook flooding in my property. Some you have already seen in Joshua Meyrowitz's PowerPoint.

Respectfully,

David McCormick

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