

From: [Eric Lund](#)
To: [Karen Edwards](#)
Cc: [Rick Taintor](#)
Subject: Comment on CDA application re: state of downstream College Brook
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 3:09:34 PM

I am writing the following comment for the record on the Colonial Durham Associates application to redevelop the Mill Road Plaza. I also intend to show the attached photo at the Planning Board meeting tonight. This message should also be forwarded to Town Engineer April Talon, whose contact information I could not readily find on the Town's website.

Dear members of the Planning Board:

I am informed that CDA's stormwater engineer represented to the external reviewer that there are no downstream obstructions along College Brook. I wish to correct the record.

I took the attached photograph this morning (17 June 2020) at about 11:00, from the rear upstream corner of my property. It shows the sewer line serving the part of the Faculty neighborhood south of College Brook. The sewer line runs beneath an easement on my upstream neighbor's property, then comes above ground in order to cross over College Brook before returning below ground on the Chesley Drive side. To my knowledge, the existence of this above-ground sewer line has not been discussed in Planning Board deliberations of the CDA application to date.

As should be clear in the photograph, there is not much vertical clearance between the sewer line and the surface of the water. Keep in mind that the last six weeks have been significantly drier than normal, so we see the brook at a particularly low level. During winter this section of the sewer line is visible from my kitchen window, and I have observed multiple instances when the water level in the brook has come up to or even above the sewer line. Because the line is potentially threatened during major flooding episodes, it is essential that the Planning Board make a full effort to ensure that the Plaza landscaping requirements are strictly adhered to in order to minimize runoff from the Plaza property.

I recognize that CDA played no role in the placement of the sewer line. However, their landscaping and stormwater plans must take into account the existence of this line.

Sincerely,
Eric Lund
31 Faculty Rd., Durham

