

**From:** Carroll, John

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**Subject:** necessary merger of two applications

To the Conservation Commission and Durham Planners Taintor and Behrendt,

At the Conservation Commission site walk at Mill Plaza this past Friday, it was obvious that, while the Town of Durham's Planning Board insists on looking at the Church Hill parking lot application and the Mill Plaza redevelopment application as two separate projects, nature does not agree. Hydrologically, they are one project with strong dual impact and interaction. This is very graphic in terms of water run-off and hard surfacing of land for the parking lot, removal of trees for the parking lot, and many aspects of storm water and College Brook flooding and water quality issues, and ultimately Oyster River and Great Bay issues.. As the saying goes, you can't fool Mother Nature - and it's costly to try to do so.

John E.

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