

To the members of the Durham Planning Board,

Over the last few years, the Planning Board has faced some very challenging and lengthy applications. Garrish Drive is one of them. Over many meetings, there were detailed discussions on wetlands issues and the abutters had many opportunities for input. After careful consideration, you approved the project. The recent court finding has brought the case back. The applicants have submitted a certified soil analysis and, barring anything extraordinary, the approval of the project should be expedited. Multiple meetings that add additional cost to the applicant is an unfair hardship.

Low housing inventory is an issues most communities are confronting. What have we learned from our recent high profile projects? Are we moving closer to achieving our master plan, and if not, what are the obstacles? Are there things we can do to make the planning process more efficient and effective? These are conversations that are desperately need to help our community grow and prosper.

I hate to be cliché, but I will: thank for your service to the community. Spending hours at public meetings while working through complex and frequently controversial issues is a big ask for a community volunteer. Your work is a big part of helping our community grow.

Regards,

Al Howland