

January 7, 2021

Dear County Council,

We are writing in support of our sewer category change request (20-TRV-03A - Arora). Our approval should be made without any restrictions whatsoever just as **all** the abutting mains approvals along Boswell lane have been in the past (and probably for all other properties approved under the abutting mains policy). There were three applicants on Boswell lane this cycle including ours (Kapoor - 20-TRV-05A and Hudgins - 20-TRV-04A). Mr. and Mrs. Garven and Carol Hudgins is the only one administratively approved under the abutting mains policy, prior to that, numerous home owners and builders along Boswell Lane got approval for sewer hook up (some who did not abut), including Ralph Desena of RAM investing, Casey Betty for Parcel450, etc. all of these approvals including other abutting mains were approved without any restrictions and all of these connect with a properly designed and engineered connection to the sewer main (usually a "standard", 90°, connection).

Why are we being singled out? Why were we not administratively approved like all other homes that fall under the abutting mains policy? Why are there unnecessary restrictions on ours? These decisions should be made fairly, justifiably, with thoughtful design and reason, and without discrimination of any kind !!

Throughout this application process (which is new to us), we were advised by DEP staff on how to word our application to improve our chances of getting administrative approval. They advised us to group all properties on Boswell Lane sewer category change requests together and that would improve our chances of administrative approval. Furthermore, we were advised by DEP staff to state in an email that we will extend the sewer main if we are approved for the category change. Although I found this odd, I was informed it will help our applications to get approved, so I stated this in an email even though I am not sure what the best design is. Why were we deceived and manipulated by DEP staff in this manner? If DEP has issues with Mr. Kapoor's application, that should have no bearing on my property, there is no relation?

Why does the transmittal letter state *"I have recommended a restricted approval for the Aroras' request for category S-1, with the provision that construction of a new main extension is not allowed."*? On what bases is this decision? Engineering? Efficiency? Or the whimsical decision of DEP personnel? We were told by DEP leadership there would be no restriction on our approval and we would be approved under the abutting mains policy. What changed? Did WSSC request this restriction? The answer is NO, WSSC Development Services Division has told us a standard 90° connection to a main is preferred and it used to be required because it is a better engineering design because it results in a better connection and less likelihood for catastrophic failure in the future. However, WSSC said they have relaxed that requirement in some cases to allow more persons to hook up to a sewer main thereby increasing their customer base. I don't want any failures on my sewer connection and we want the best engineered design and what is best for our land use (perhaps we'll decide on a non-standard connection as best design), the decision should not be based on some political agenda. I pay taxes on my land and should be treated fairly. There is NO wording in any Master Plan that has such a restriction.

If restricted, the council should point out the specific limitation listed in the Water and Sewer Plan in the abutting mains policy that does as such, otherwise, this approval should be made without restrictions. Restrictions of a small extension as needed, runs counter to WSSC's intent and desire to build the best engineered sewer's in the county. Is the county willing to run the risk of building poorly designed sewer

systems to appease an unjustified and unfair rational? You should leave it to the experts who do this for a living, WSSC and engineers. This is a slippery slope that could make the county liable for a great deal of money and cause citizens a great deal of headache.

I repeat, there should be no restriction on our approval to S-1 just as all others on Boswell lane who were approved for category change have not had. Everyone has been allowed to connect in standard connection format, right-angle, and/or best WSSC design. A standard connection is the most cost effective, sensible, sustainable, and shortest path to our house. Also, what if I decide to raze my existing home and build a new home, I want to be able to position the home to our liking and not be restricted by sewer location.

Please do the right thing and approve our S-1 without restrictions and let our sewer connection be designed and done the proper way which will ultimately be the best for the environment (less sewer line failures), citizens of the county, and for all involved.

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Ashwani & Janak Arora