



D U R H A M

# Open Space & Trails Commission

Durham City-County Planning Department ▪ 101 City Hall Plaza ▪ Durham, NC 27701

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December 16, 2015

To: Members of Durham City Council

From: Annette G. Montgomery, Chair, Development Review Committee

Durham Open Space and Trails Commission

Re: Z1500037 Witherspoon Garrett Road

The applicant for this request seeks to develop 6,000 square feet of retail shops. A large portion of the property is encumbered with flood plain to the southwest that drains into New Hope Creek. This property is in the adopted New Hope Creek Corridor Master Plan area and contains a portion of the Natural Heritage Area known as the New Hope Creek Bottomlands Forest. The floodplain should be protected as permanent open space along with New Hope Creek Bottomlands Forest boundary area that has been identified by the State. The parcels are adjacent to Corp lands on the west with existing residential on the south edged at the southern end by a tributary of New Hope Creek, which is part of the New Hope Corridor, Greenway trail, originating at Sandy Creek Park (off Pickett Road).

In keeping with our approved Master Plan, DOST is requesting that the applicant maintain the southwest portion of this site that is within the New Hope Creek Bottomlands and the floodplain as permanent open space to remain undisturbed.

Thank you for considering our comments.