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Planning for the Future

December 28, 2015

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

Reference: Witherspoon Garrett Road – Rezoning (Z1500037)
Biologic Opinion

Dear Amy:

Please accept this letter as the Biologic Opinion for the Witherspoon Garrett Road rezoning (Z1500037) application.

There is a small area located in the south west corner of the 4800 Garrett Road parcel which is within the New Hope Creek Bottomland Forest Inventory Area. The majority of the inventory area is currently vegetated with a mix of hardwoods and pines. There is an existing sanitary sewer main and easement which runs through part of the eastern edge of the inventory area. About two-thirds of the inventory area is also encumbered by the 100 year floodplain.

Per conversations with City of Durham staff it has been suggested that any new development be restricted from the internal limits of the inventory area. Thus the developer has chosen to locate the proposed development limits outside of the inventory area boundary.

With understanding the proposed development limits have been located outside of the inventory area boundary. It is our opinion that this project will not impact the New Hope Creek Bottomland Forest Inventory Area. The inventory area will remain as it is in its current condition. It should also be noted an effort will be made to minimize any proposed grading up to the limits of the inventory area during the site plan process.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew J. Porter, RLA
Coulter Jewell Thames, PA