

# TRANSITION RENOVATIONS, LLC

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November 5, 2015

Durham City Council  
101 City Hall Plaza  
Durham, NC 27701

**Re: Request for Reimbursement of Expenditures 610 Carroll Street, Durham**

Dear Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to present my position on the matter before you today. As you know, I have been in communication with Mr. Thomas Bonfield, Mr. Bowman Ferguson, and Mr. Marvin Williams, regarding this matter. I am in receipt of Mr Marvin Williams' letter dated July 6, 2015, denying the driveway permit for 610 Carroll Street. Mr. Williams stated "the DPW will not be able to issue a sign off for a Certificate of Compliance for the above reference address until the existing traffic calming device (speed hump) issue has been resolved." (See Attachment A) This letter comes after having received an approved building permit# 1510284 for 610 Carroll Street on May 12, 2015, with the driveway shown on the plot plan. (See Attachment B) As a result, I was unable to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy. This predicament forced me to expend \$9,000.00 to have the speed hump relocated.

Mr. Ferguson's e-mail dated July 10, 2015 provides a link to the City of Durham's Speed Hump Policy which governs the installation and removal of speed humps. Upon careful review of this policy, it's intent is clearly to clarify the City's policy on the installation of speed humps to promote public safety. While the policy does state "Speed humps *should* be installed so as to avoid several street features. These include drainage features, utilities, driveways,".... etc., it also clearly specifies the criteria for removal. (See Attachment D)

Paragraph 4. of this policy states the Department of Transportation is responsible in analyzing the request for speed bumps. Paragraph 8. states speed humps may be removed with a more than 50% property owner petition, or if the City Manager determines traffic circulation and or safety concerns justify their removal. Paragraph 8. also states "Speed humps installed pursuant to Section 5 of this policy shall be removed only upon order of City Council.

Based on this policy, it was not within the authority of the Department of Public Works to withhold a Certificate of Occupancy and order me to pay for the relocation of this speed hump at 610 Carroll Street. In addition, the City Manager could not have determined this hump to be a traffic or safety concern. Lastly, there was not a majority of homeowners who petitioned the City for removal of the speed hump.

In closing, the City has made conflicting judgments regarding the location and or request for removal of speed humps. To date, a speed hump remains in the driveway located at 112 Hillside Avenue. The driveway was originally east of its current location. (See Attachment E) The current turn in has since been relocated, cut out and approved in a location comparable to the hump at 610 Carroll Street--within an existing driveway.

After this lengthy and discouraging encounter with the City of Durham on this matter, I am respectfully requesting full reimbursement for the cost of relocating the speed hump. I am also requesting that the City be consistent across the board in enforcing policy with all residential and commercial developers.

Thank you, in advance, for your utmost consideration. Should you need additional information, please contact me at 919-685-6562. I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding your decision. It is my hope that you will bring this matter to a close and reach a fair and positive resolution as I continue to work with you to transform to our great city through quality residential development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trans Perry', written in a cursive style.

Trans Perry

Attachments