

The Hillsborough Town Board having discussed and considered issues concerning the site selection for the Orange County Waste Transfer Station hereby adopts the following resolution:

Whereas the Town Board recognizes the difficulty of this decision for the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and,

Whereas the Hillsborough Town Board values the productive working relationship that has been developed between the Hillsborough Town Board and the BOCC and,

Whereas the Hillsborough Town Board recognizes the positive impacts of the many County facilities located within the Town of Hillsborough and,

Whereas the Hillsborough Town Board was informed of the selection of sites 857 and 573 on Sept. 11th, 2008 and was given insufficient time to develop a thoughtful response before the Oct. 21st, 2008 BOCC Work Session, and

Whereas the sites 857 and 573 are located at an entranceway to Hillsborough and within the Hillsborough Economic Development District (EDD), and

Whereas the Hillsborough Town Board considers this EDD of strategic importance and desires to include it within the Town's planning jurisdiction and, ultimately, within its corporate limits, and

Whereas the Hillsborough Town Board identifies a number of unresolved issues including but not limited to:

Economic Concerns: The impact of this site on an established Economic Development District, in reduced property values, lost opportunity for attracting commercial tax base, negative impacts on the investment of the Town and County in Waterstone, negative impacts on tourism and related tax revenues, and the impact on the BOCC adopted Economic Development Strategic Plan.

Cost to Tax Payers: Costs of land acquisition, infrastructure improvements, EDD guidelines compliance, increased public safety costs, municipal costs for transporting waste farther distances, duplication of services already provided at existing Eubanks facilities, demands on the Hillsborough water and sewer capacity, and costs of EDD site volume design requirements.

Environmental impacts: lack of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Air Quality review before site selection, storm water run-off impacts, and additional carbon footprint impacts.

Traffic: Impacts on a Scenic By-Way (old 86), increased truck traffic on two lane roads of old and new 86. Impacts on level of service for new 86/I-85 bridge and access ramp. Increased Vehicle Miles Traveled from the center of solid waste production, and no Traffic Impact Analysis.

Process Issues: limited transparency in selection criteria, limited time frame for addressing site-specific issues, poor design of technical criteria (cross correlated criteria, arbitrary weightings),

no adopted procedures for citizen input, conflicts with the Hillsborough-Orange County Phase II direction for including these areas within Hillsborough's planning jurisdiction.

Community Specific Issues: Impact on the entranceway to Hillsborough and the heart of Orange County, impacts on adjacent neighborhoods and nearby schools.

And whereas the Hillsborough Town Board has a responsibility to protect and provide for its citizens and,

Whereas the Town Board has no avenue to adequately address the concerns of its citizens within the timeframe allotted,

The Town Board resolves to oppose locating a waste transfer station at sites 857, 573, or 826.

If necessary, the Town of Hillsborough will endeavor to annex these sites.

Furthermore, the Town Board recommends that the Board of County Commissioners:

1. Develop a meaningful and transparent process for public participation in the decision process.
2. Perform environmental impact and economic analyses before site selection.
3. Slow down to allow sufficient time to properly analyze candidate sites.
4. Create an industrial zone for compatible uses.
5. Consider existing county-owned sites.
6. Assign Hillsborough planning jurisdiction for the Hillsborough Economic Development District.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent or Excused: 0



Donna F. Armbrister, MMC
Town Clerk