

**Tarra Jolly**

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**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Another Perspective on the proposed deforestation of our Bethania Neighborhood

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**From:** Georganne Mackaronis <gmackaronis@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:59 AM

**Cc:** Marc Allred <marca@cityofws.org>; Lizka Bradley <lizkab@cityofws.org>; Rory Howard <roryh@cityofws.org>; Tarra Jolly <tarraj@cityofws.org>; Nick Smith <nicks@cityofws.org>; Bryan D. Wilson <bryandw@cityofws.org>; Jones, Scott A <sajones8@ncdot.gov>; Norris, Randy E <renorris@wsfcs.k12.nc.us>; Long, Ashley M <amlong1@ncdot.gov>; Brent Rockett <brockett@townofbethania.org>; Michelle Leonard <mml.muddysneakers@gmail.com>; mleonard@townofbethania.org; Georganne Mackaronis <gmackaronis@gmail.com>; Mark Jones <mark.jones.6381@gmail.com>; Gary & Annette Nelson <nettieboo2@aol.com>; Val Fleming <ff.fleming936@yahoo.com>; Jason halsey <halseyj6@gmail.com>; Neal Kon <nealdkon@gmail.com>; Ann Gordon <anniesmayday60@gmail.com>; Thad Stamper <tcs45@triad.rr.com>; Donna Stamper <stamperd48@gmail.com>; Greg Silva <gsilva001@triad.rr.com>; Doug Curtis <ram271@twc.com>; rrobbins1@triad.rr.com; jrobbins5@triad.rr.com; benjaminatuttle@gmail.com; breetuttle06@gmail.com; Gail & Steve Bean <jgailbean@mindspring.com>; jodi2day@gmail.com; tetascribe@gmail.com; jimteta1@gmail.com

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Another Perspective on the proposed deforestation of our Bethania Neighborhood

**Would you kindly forward a copy of this email to all Members of the City-County Planning Board; Walter Farabee, Jason Grubbs, Clarence Lambe, Mo McRae, Salvador Patiño, Linda Schwab, Brenda Smith, Jack Steelman, and the presiding Chris Leake.**

To All Concerned,

I am Georganne Mackaronis and I live at 4700 Queens Grant Road. I am one of the oldest residents of Bethania Woods, both age and length of residency. My children were born and raised in Bethania Woods. I've had the unique advantage of having the Bethania conservancy-protected lands as my "front" yard. With the additional traffic due to the proposed new development, the protected nature of the land will be severely compromised.

My friends and neighbors couldn't have said it any better. They have spent hours/days/weeks researching the information they included in their letters to you. Please pay attention to all of our concerns.

I have seen Bethania Road, between Reynolda Road and the 3-way Stop sign in Bethania, go from a quaint 2-lane road, with wildlife and beautiful scenery, to a speedway/raceway. It's no longer my preferred locale for my daily constitutional! How many more vehicles do we need to find crashed into the walls at the entrance to Bethania Woods or flipped over on Bethania Road before something will be done? It's only going to get worse with the additional volume of cars coming from and going to the new proposed development. Volume, speed and road conditions are contributing factors. Law enforcement, state and local, have their hands full already. I can't imagine them being able to safely monitor an additional 1000+ cars daily(I'm being very conservative) at the intersection of Bethania and Queens Grant Roads. Even the speed limit of 35mph on Bethania Road cannot be enforced, with most cars going at least 45-50mph and even tracked at 65-75mph. Pulling out onto Bethania Road from Queens Grant Road with blind curves in the road, both to the left and right, is going to be a nightmare, especially during rush hours. Our narrow, barely 2-lane wide neighborhood road is going to become the on ramp to Bethania Road.

I can count on one hand the number of times the State has maintained our road in the past 35+ years. The rainwater run-off down Bear Creek and Queens Grant Roads has gotten exponentially worse, causing ditches on both sides of the

roads, road erosion, compromising the road bed itself. You've seen the pictures of the water rushing down the road from side to side and pooling at the Bethania-Queens Grant intersection. The deforestation and eventual construction of buildings, walkways, driveways, and roadways are only going to intensify this water runoff problem. So far this year we haven't had the additional concern of snow and ice. When it has snowed in the past, whether a dusting or a measurable amount, the road has not been treated in a timely manner, if at all. With measurable snow, or the resultant ice from melting snow, Queens Grant Road is treacherous and at times impassable. Sometimes vehicles are "abandoned" in the roadway, for up to 24 hours, or until Mother Nature decides to free her catch. The barely 2-lane wide road requires cooperation by drivers on a good day. When the surface becomes slick vehicles slide down the hill and drivers hope to stop before entering Bethania Road. And think about the challenge of trying to climb the hill, a fairly steep grade, when the road is snow/ice covered.

Also, there must be other existing roads within the city limits of Winston-Salem that would be at least as suitable, maybe more so, than Queens Grant and Bear Creek Roads. Art(?), Basil, Joyce, Bailey, Kiser, and multiple opportunities on Bethabara Roads to name just a few, which are all within the city limits of Winston-Salem.

Finally, how can a City (Winston-Salem) Development Ordinance require adherence to by an entity (Town of Bethania) outside of that city?

Thanks for your consideration,  
Georganne Mackaronis