

A Notice to the Lower Windsor Township Community

As many of our Lower Windsor Township (LWT) residents are aware, our LWT Zoning Hearing Board and the LWT Supervisors have expressed concerns to the Eastern York School District (EYSD) School Board about building a new school at the corner of Cool Creek and Mt. Pisgah Roads. Those concerns, which reflect similar concerns communicated by residents to the LWT Zoning Hearing Board and Supervisors, were far-ranging. They included concerns from safety issues to concerns about potential traffic congestion, given the neighboring residential developments. The underlying objection by the LWT Supervisors as to building at this location was a violation of an ordinance pertaining to building where steep slopes needed to be disrupted.

Based upon our interaction with the EYSD School Board, LWT did encourage them to conduct public hearings to seek more community feedback and support for this location and decision. Apart from a community focus group established many years ago, we are unaware of any major outreach by the EYSD School Board to the community, particularly recently, which is surprising given the potential tax impact to residents.

Recently the court ruled in favor of LWT about the School not being able to build at this location due to the effect of these ordinance provisions. However, that court ruling will not impact the ability of EYSD to proceed at this location, since the authority to rule on the suitability of this location has been transferred to Hellam Township based on a recent determination by the LWT engineer that the subject property was, in fact, located entirely in Hellam Township, even though the School came to LWT to seek a variance to our ordinance.

As a result of this recent ruling, we wanted to make sure that all of the LWT residents who expressed concerns were aware that they must now go to the Hellam Township Board if they want their voices to be heard regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the LWT Manager, Sande Cunningham at scunningham@lowerwindsor.com.