

Leanne Scott

From: Donna Folland [dfolland@oaklandlandconservancy.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2007 11:47 AM
To: Leanne Scott
Subject: Comments re first reading of proposed steep slope ordinance

Dear Ms. Scott,

I am writing concerning tonight's first reading of the proposed steep slope ordinance by the Rochester Hills City Council on tonight's council agenda. I am unable to attend the meeting and comment in person. Therefore I am providing my comments and support for the proposed ordinance by email.

Over many years, I have seen the results of development that has occurred too close to the steep slopes that are characteristic of the Clinton River in Rochester Hills. The example in Rookery Woods, where the Conservancy has lost a portion of nature preserve due to erosion next to development is a well-documented example.

Protection of these slopes will conserve the natural habitat and water quality of the Clinton River and its tributaries - these are characteristics that help make Rochester Hills a lovely city to live in or visit.

I also emphasize that economic considerations support the protection of steep slopes in the City. Retaining the integrity of these slopes is important to the developer and the future homeowner, who risk their valuable investment if the integrity of the steep slope fails. Homeowners risk their backyards becoming unsightly or even unsafe for their families, when fragile slopes slide into the river.

Since the ordinance does not prohibit development on the properties with steep slopes and is in the interest of the future homeowner, it is my hope that the ordinance will apply to all development projects that are not currently approved, with no "grandfathering" of past development applicants.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Best regards,

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