

RESOLUTION REGARDING BLACK MEADOW RIDGE

Whereas the Eno River is an important natural resource for Durham and the region;

And, whereas the Eno River at West Point on the Eno Durham City Park has been well-protected for the past 55 years; but today faces environmental degradation from the planned development on the site known as Black Meadow Ridge;

And, whereas the property known as Black Meadow Ridge was designated as a Keystone parcel in the 2018 City of Durham's Critical Area Protection Plan which identified the highest priority property to be protected in Durham's critical watersheds;

And, whereas the Eno River at West Point still contains the rare aquatic habitat and the wildlife corridor described in the "Durham County Inventory of Significant Natural Areas, Plants and Wildlife" by NC Natural Heritage Program naturalists to be of national significance;

And, whereas the Eno River at West Point still sustains the endangered Neuse River Waterdog and other rare species, including the yellow lamp mussel, the Roanoke bass, the panhandle pebblesnail and the Atlantic pigtoe;

And, whereas the Eno River provides drinking water for Falls Lake serving the City of Raleigh and for the future Teer Quarry, which will serve as an emergency water intake for the City of Durham;

And, whereas the land on Black Meadow Ridge is culturally, naturally, and topographically a part of the historic environs of West Point on the Eno;

And, whereas its preservation would provide expanded equitable access to nature and walking trails for all of Durham since it is served by public transit;

And, whereas the historic African American cemetery called the Holman Cemetery was historically a part of West Point on the Eno and would best be protected and made accessible by the preservation of Black Meadow Ridge and the preservation of the historic wagon trail crossing the ridge to the ancient Buffalo Trail at West Point;

And, whereas the living history museum at West Point should remain secluded and natural in character, free of urbanization, without modern construction in the view-shed, and without damage to the historic waterworks and West Point Mill from the increased flooding the development would bring to two Eno tributaries, Black Meadow Branch and Warren's Mill Creek;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Association for the Preservation of the Eno River Valley wholeheartedly hereby goes on record to support the preservation of Black Meadow Ridge and its addition to West Point on the Eno Durham City Park and further hereby strongly advocates against the building of the current proposed "Eno Village" development on Black Meadow Ridge and welcomes the opportunity to purchase the property at a fair and reasonable price.