

Hi, my name is Jeni Thomas, and I am a resident of the Two Rivers neighborhood. Thank you for allowing me to speak this evening. **I HAVE COME TO ASK THAT YOU PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE AN EXTENSION FOR THE LANDFILL.**

My family moved to Two Rivers in August of 2020, after my husband accepted a position with the Army Corps of Engineers in Washington DC. When we began to look for a home in December of '19, 90% of our decision was based upon location. We previously lived in Castle Rock, Colorado for 25 years, a Denver suburb with views of the mountains, miles of trails for hiking and biking, with nearby golfing every summer and skiing each winter. The town has a historic "railroad town" vibe, very similar to the area surrounding Two Rivers.

This was a **big** move for our family. We knew we needed to be near the train to commute, and a good school district was very important. We were thrilled when we drove through historic Woodwardville, past Patuxent Ponds Park and the WB&A trailhead along tree-lined Patuxent Road to enter the Two Rivers neighborhood. **It immediately felt like "home", where you could enjoy the outdoors and the history of the area all at once.** Two Rivers and all of its amenities have been perfect for us, including the walking and biking paths, ponds, dog park, pool, tennis and pickleball. **We love it here.** We also appreciate that our community borders the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge, and we benefit from living amongst numerous birds, deer, and other animals in the area. A landfill would disturb and disrupt the migration of local wildlife.

We had lived here for 4 months when we received an email regarding the potential landfill moving into our neighborhood. This was **NEVER** disclosed to us by the builder or developer during the 8 months while our home was being built. Had we known this information when we began to look at Two Rivers, **it would have been a deal-breaker. We would have NEVER purchased a home near a landfill.** We commented just last night to a neighbor that we are surprised there isn't a large sign as you drive into the community, announcing the potential landfill and corresponding hearings. Our neighbor commented that there is actually a sign at the very end of Conway Road, well beyond all the entrances to Two Rivers homes, and the only reason our neighbor came across this sign, was because he missed his turn. **The placement of this sign seems very deceptive on the part of National Waste Managers, and possibly on the part of the developer and builders. We question the ethics of a company that would do this, and their motivations to protect our community.**

We have grave concerns about such a huge negative lifestyle impact, and also how public safety will be compromised with a stream of dump trucks continually traveling through our neighborhood. As residents of this "new-build" neighborhood, we have witnessed many large trucks, including trash trucks, speed through our streets with no regard for the residents. Multiply the current number of trash trucks by all the communities this landfill would service; and the safety, as well as the appeal and the character of our neighborhood would greatly decline. With the wind that we can experience in our area, we are certain to

have trash flying around, not to mention the smell that could radiate through our community. We have many visitors to our home throughout the year, friends and family coming from across the country. We would no longer want to welcome guests if our home is located next to a dump. It would destroy the entire complexion and nuance of our neighborhood.

I work in residential real estate, and I have for over 25 years, and I have **NEVER** seen, and **NEVER** would have imagined, a situation where an established residential neighborhood would have to endure a landfill being built in the community. Some of our neighbors would actually have a landfill just outside their backyard.

A landfill would not only significantly impact our lifestyle, but would have a huge negative affect on our property values. According to a 2005 study done by Richard Ready, an Associate Professor at Penn State University; **our property values could drop as much as 12.9%**. This is not a small amount when you consider home values are currently \$600,000 to around \$1M in our neighborhood, which could average a \$100,000 loss per home. With around 1,500 homes, you are looking at approximately **\$150M** lost in property values in Two Rivers.

A primary residence is typically a family's greatest life investment, and this is not a loss my husband and I can afford. We are planning to retire in 10 years, and this could completely upend that plan. Our largest investment over the years has definitely been our home equity, and it plays a significant part in our retirement. **This landfill could drastically affect how and when we can retire.**

As you can imagine, knowing a landfill in our neighborhood could be a possibility is extremely stressful, and has caused us panic and sleepless nights. **We have an uncertain future as long as this potential landfill is a possibility. It would be devastating for our community as well as for my family.** Please consider, this is a completely different and fully developed community now, vs. what it was in 1990, and **it is not an appropriate nor an acceptable place for a landfill. The moment for this area to include a dump has come and is long gone. I don't think anyone here would ever want to live next to a landfill, and neither do we.** It is truly unbelievable that a company would continue to consider disrupting and destroying a beautiful residential neighborhood like Two Rivers. **PLEASE DO NOT GRANT AN EXTENSION TO NATIONAL WASTE MANAGERS.** Thank you.