

From: Sarah Powell
To: Betty Jo Mahan
Date: 12/9/2010 8:39:03 AM
Subject: Fwd: Support for Hillslope/Ridgetop development plan

>>> m mayes <mamayes5@yahoo.com> 12/8/2010 8:43 PM >>>
Hi everyone

I would like to ask you to support the Hillslope and Ridgetop Development plan. Our ridges are one of the things that makes Knox County a unique and interesting place to live, and they provide improved water and air quality because most of them retain their tree and soil coverage. I really appreciate MPC's efforts to support this and to present it to the public. Large scale careless and high density developments will inevitably cause landslides large and small and will pollute water quality of those downstream, and decrease their property values. As a hydrologist and geologist, I can assure that these facts are true, and that once trees are removed, it is only a short period of time before soil is eroded and stream and possibly ground water quality become degraded. It is sad and ironic that the vocal opponents of the plan claim their rights will be infringed if development is regulated on those properties, when in fact, this plan actually protects other nearby landowners from the negative consequences of unwise and unsustainable development. That is the crux of it -- because without some regulation for fragile slopes, it is the nearby landowners who pay the price for unwise development of a few people. Please put regulations in place to protect all landowners from a few greedy and careless ones. Please protect our viewscapes and our unique heritage. Thank you.

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