

Based on the last several years, Knox County has seen an increase in annual rain. We've all witnessed the amounts of floodwaters from Cedar Bluff, Powell, Fountain City, Lakeshore and of course in our own backyards. It is our duty to protect the environment from the known and unknown consequences that floodwaters unexpectedly impose. With the collaboration of the Knoxville Knox County Planning Commission, County Commissioners, builders, businesses, homeowners and future homeowners it is our responsibility to protect Knox County residents from the financial hardships of increasing floodwaters. In addition, due to this increase, residents will be required to obtain flood insurance at additional costs. Did you know between 2014 and 2018, more than 40% of flood insurance claims came from outside high-risk flood areas? This is from the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program website.

A campaign to Keep Beaver Creek Clean started last year, yet we can't keep up with clearing the creek due to a heavy rainfall overflowing the banks and bringing more debris and trees. With the exponential building of subdivisions that have riddled the Karns Community, this only exacerbates the flooding issues along Beaver Creek.

The fact is that rain has increased every year in Knox County, with 2020 ending at 65.59 inches. It is a fact that flood waters have come out of its bank the last several years to reach the 500-year floodplain. See attached photos.

Our request is for Knoxville Knox County Planning Commission to table the proposed rezoning of 8520 West Emory Road, until FEMA reevaluates the floodway, which has not been updated since 2007.