

Good afternoon. My name is Joshua Crisp, and I am a homeowner in Hickory Meadows.

My wife has spent a great deal of time reviewing the planning documents and following this process, so I won't repeat everything she has shared. Instead, I'd like to speak as a homeowner who made the decision to invest in this community.

We chose Hickory Meadows because we believed we understood the type of community we were buying into. We expected a rural residential area where families could build their lives, not a community where a quarry could expand just a few hundred feet from homes.

I appreciate that Vulcan has revised its proposal and offered additional conditions to lessen some of the impacts. However, additional berms, landscaping, setbacks, and monitoring do not change the reason we chose to live here. They do not change the surrounding land use or make this location the right place for a quarry expansion.

I also ask the Commission to consider what this decision means beyond this one application. Families make life-changing financial decisions based on the County's planning process. They trust that the County's adopted vision for an area means something. If homeowners can no longer rely on that planning framework, how can future families make informed decisions about where to buy a home?

This isn't about opposing business or opposing growth. We understand that growth is important. But growth should happen in places where it is consistent with the County's vision and compatible with the surrounding community.

I also ask you to consider the precedent this decision sets. If a residential community approved under the County's planning vision can later find itself just a few hundred feet from expanded drilling and blasting operations, what confidence should current and future homeowners have that the County's planning decisions will remain meaningful?

Once a decision like this is made, it cannot be undone. The character of a community changes permanently.

I respectfully ask you to protect the trust that residents place in the County's planning process, preserve the rural character of this community, and deny this application.