

Subject: David Kemp's Remarks
Date: Wed, 19 Jul 2006 13:05:20 -0400
From: "Keith Tate" Bayland
To: Vince Wheatley
Cc: the usual gang

Dear Vince,

I do not know David Kemp, but he has indicated my feelings as depicted by you. I'm not sure what went on here, but I feel it is important to clear this up to everyone immediately. Mr. Kemp wrote:

But according to Vince, Keith Tate is frustrated by DNR's refusal to accept

- 1) the SAV study,*
- 2) the bathymetric survey,*
- 3) the wetlands license already issued to Connelly Developers for dredging this area, and*
- 4) the fact that Connelly constructed Tom Dent's yard by filling a ravine with Mill Creek dredge spoil as "compelling reasons" to approve a permit. If a competent, reputable, and environmentally-fanatical firm like BayLand provides evidence that dredging would improve the health of Mill Creek, and DNR refuses to accept that evidence as compelling, then our beef is with DNR, not with DPW.*

For the record, the DNR funded and highly supports the County's SAV/Dredging studies. The partnership between DPW, DNR, and the Corps of Engineers (COE) is very strong regarding SAV and management of waterways. Last week BayLand/DPW presented an update of our four year studies on SAV/Dredging to the entire Regulatory Branch (15 permit reviewers and their supervisors) of the COE. At the end of my presentation I informed the group about our work on Mill Creek and that we are considering sediment removal as a means to restore the upper waterway from impacts caused by the sewerage spill and/or by urbanization.

The COE was very appreciative of all of the SAV/Dredging work funded by DNR and DPW. They respect that the DPW/DNR are leaders in this type of work and they are confident that DPW will approach this subject in a scientific manor and will present its case for Mill Creek, even if remediation of this type has never been done before.

As for the bathymetric survey, the DNR will certainly accept and support the bathymetric work done by BayLand and by the previous consultant. We work with the DNR continuously across 50 or so waterways.

As for items 3 and 4, I have no knowledge of those issues nor their relevance to our work so I am certainly not frustrated.

On a personal note, I appreciate the opportunity to work with the DPW and their commitment to work responsibly with DNR and other agencies on waterway management. We are truly on new grounds with the Mill Creek recovery and I think if anything can be done, we are fortunate to have the recognized leadership and commitment in the County to see this through. I hope we can stay focused to facts to avoid undermining our progress.

Thanks,

Keith Tate

