

From: Elizabeth M Matteson <em@elizabethmullen.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 4:20 PM

To: James Gorman <jgorman@southkingstownri.com>

Cc: Jessica Spence <jspence@southkingstownri.com>; Town Council <towncouncil@southkingstownri.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Application for 88 Columbia Street - requesting a review of stormwater drainage

RE: zoning application to be reviewed tonight at meeting

Dear Jamie Gorman,

Several years ago, Avery Storti Funeral home built a large addition on their property, and re-graded their back hill. That action forever changed the way storm water flows in our neighborhood. This has affected us directly, at great cost. I called the zoning office soon after that addition was completed (at first big rain) and may have a letter on file referencing this.

The **storm drain at the southern side of the back of the Avery Storti property overflows routinely**, pushing huge amounts of water right at our house and our neighbors' too. This can be seen clearly from River Street during/after a heavy rain. This relatively new storm drain cannot currently handle the drainage of the property, and I'm concerned additional work on their property will make this issue worse.

Our home is located at 78 River Street, 'downstream' from Avery Storti's Columbia St property. Because of that earlier addition, we've had to spend approximately \$10,000 in mitigation/fixes to our house and property including creating a driveway that includes a special drainage system, and we had to re-grade, re-cement our entire basement too, creating a big reservoir to collect and pump water. We've also had enormous erosion to our back yard, as sheets of water flow down the hill from the existing drain system and flow toward the Saugatucket through our property

I believe Avery Storti is a valuable part of our community, and do not think they are aware of the effects the earlier addition had on our property. They are good people and I wish them success. I also support their zoning application, **IF the storm water drainage system is revisited and improved.**

I am asking that **prior to approving any further building on that property, that the stormwater drainage system is re-visited and shored up, or replaced,** lest the storm water situation get worse for River Street residents.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Mullen Matteson
78 River Street
Wakefield, RI 02879

cc: towncouncil@southkingstownri.com

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