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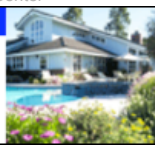


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## Garbage transfer site back on agenda

BY BETH VELLIQUETTE : The Herald-Sun  
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Nov 5, 2007 : 10:51 pm ET

HILLSBOROUGH -- It wasn't on the agenda, but the Orange County Board of Commissioners decided Monday it wants to restart the process for finding a site for a garbage transfer station.

The board had previously decided to place the transfer station on Eubanks Road, where the county landfill is located. Nearby residents have protested, saying they've been victims of decades of broken promises regarding the landfill, and that by siting the transfer station on Eubanks Road, they're being victimized again.

As the Board of Commissioners meeting began, Chairman Moses Carey said he had a change of mind regarding putting the transfer station on Eubanks Road.

"We told the people who live out at Rogers Road and around the site that we would take their request to resite the station under advisement," Carey said.

Another reason, Carey said, was for social justice reasons.

Residents of Rogers Road, many of them black, have claimed they've been victims of environmental racism. Some upscale neighborhoods have also sprung up along Rogers Road, and people in those neighborhoods have joined the fight.

It also has become a politically hot topic in the Carrboro Board of Aldermen race.

"I've had a change of heart and maybe other members of the board may have felt the same thing," Carey said.

Board members Valerie Foushee, Mike Nelson and Alice Gordon said they, too, were in favor of restarting the process. Commissioner Barry Jacobs was not present at the meeting.

"I think we've all thought about it, and I do think the public needs a response," Foushee said.

Nelson and Gordon said they, too, favored starting the process again and wanted to get started at the next meeting.

"We face a deadline for finding a place for a transfer station, and we don't have much time, so we should start as soon as possible," Nelson said.

Gordon added that she would like the staff to come up with some procedures and processes "so the agenda has some meat on the bones."

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Foushee wanted to make sure that starting the process again would not affect the work of a task force that is working on ways to mitigate the problems Rogers Road residents are already suffering from because of the landfill.

She told of receiving a telephone call recently at 10:15 p.m. from a minister near the facility asking her to come out to Purefoy Drive so she could smell what the residents smell.

"It was a putrid odor," she said. "It gave me a greater appreciation of what those residents live through every day," she said.



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