



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Zoning Board Votes Against Keystone Development, Preserving Haverstick Woods**

Indianapolis IN — Today, the Metropolitan Development Commission voted 5-3 against a proposal by Keystone Realty to re-zone and develop a parcel for office space, retail and restaurants at Haverstick Woods & E. 86th St.

Remonstrators witnessed the vote with satisfaction.

"With this decision, the commission struck a decisive blow for the preservation of forest and green space and quality of life ... and against business as usual," said Jeff Stant, executive director of the Indiana Forest Alliance. Stant testified about the increase in flooding and stormwater run-off that would be triggered by the erasure of the forest.

"We're so happy that the commission sided with the community and people," said Stacey Clark, a resident of nearby Driftwood Hills. Clark testified about the fact that the development would decrease neighborhood safety with the increase in fast traffic. The Nora Community Council had voted 9-2 in June to oppose the development.

"This is a starting point for entering to a dialogue with Keystone Realty," Clark said afterward the ruling. "We respect that they own the property and we look forward to reentering a negotiation that addresses their wants and the neighborhood's wants."

"In the light the significant flooding in places like Houston with uncontrolled growth, I commend the commission for voting against the paving over of this forest that will worsen flooding downstream," said Elizabeth Mahoney, northside resident and president of the River Park Neighborhood board.

Another remonstrator noted that there are already 54 restaurants along the corridor and that 14% of office space in the area is vacant.

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