

Dear Coalition Member,

It is with great pleasure that I tell you that a new border agreement was approved at last evening's town council meeting at Fuquay-Varina and the annexation proposal of our communities was terminated. There is no doubt that this is due directly to the efforts of our coalition. We began this effort at the initial meeting we held on May 5th. We organized rapidly and worked every angle effectively. Within a few days we launched a website, produced signs, circulated a petition, created a contact database/ email distribution system, engaged the press, and began applying pressure to town officials from both Fuquay and Holly Springs. We also educated ourselves with the facts early on. This allowed us to pose substantial and intelligent arguments of opposition to Fuquay officials at the public meetings and in letterform.

I want to sincerely thank everyone in our coalition who contributed to our cause on all levels. Special thanks to the neighborhood captains, members who donated money, people who went door-to-door soliciting petition signatures and donations, and everyone who wrote letters and spoke at the meetings. I also need to express my gratitude to some people that directly helped me lead this coalition toward successfully achieving our goals. First, I must thank my wonderful wife, Kristine, who worked side by side with me devoting countless hours to researching the facts and facilitating communications. We truly gave this everything we had and tried to answer all of the calls and emails we received on a daily basis. The next person that deserves a huge amount of credit is Holly Springs Councilman Vinnie DeBenedetto. It was through his concern for his community and coaching me through the political process that helped me be effective in my communications with the two towns. Vinnie was also very instrumental in getting Nelson Dollar, State Representative and Carl Dean, Manager Town of Holly Springs, to our meeting and facilitated communications that resulted in a favorable outcome for all parties. He exemplifies how our elected officials are supposed to represent the people's will and deserves our support in the future. I would also like to thank Nelson Dollar, HS Mayor Sears, HS Town Manager Carl Dean, the all of the councilmen of HS, and Kathy Heath from stopncannexation.com for all of their concern and efforts in helping resolve this situation. Lastly I need to express my gratitude to the people who helped me lead this coalition. Jeff Yeagar, our Webmaster, Bob Smith our Legal Liaison, Ken Williams, our Press Secretary, Jack Knott our Treasurer, Keith McCombs, Will Hinkston, and Thelma and Johnny Mann for their many contributions and consultations as well.

Needless to say that this was a group effort. We proved that although it is rare, you can fight city hall and be heard and represented. Let us now refocus our efforts on encouraging our state legislators to get the moratorium passed in the senate. We then need to implore them to update these outdated annexation laws so that NC homeowners rights are protected. We also need to continue to support Kathy Heath and her website so they can keep the pressure on and end this unjust practice. Please be advised that although we dodged this bullet and a new border agreement was developed between the two towns that ended this annexation proposal, there is no guarantee that new initiatives

could not happen again in the future. We need to be involved in local politics and support candidates that are opposed to forced annexation.

In the next few days I will sit down with the coalition champions I mentioned above and we will come up with a fair and transparent method of totaling our expenses and determine how to return the balance of the money we collected from the donors. I will communicate this plan ASAP. We will also stay in touch with this coalition as we continue to fight forced annexation in North Carolina.

Best Regards,

Bob Padalino