



Dear Neighbor,

I hope this letter finds you all well. Please forgive this poor substitute for a house call, but I wanted a chance to speak to each of you, and COVID-19 certainly isn't making that easy!

Awhile back, you may have received a letter from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It was asking about doing asbestos sampling on your property which is in the expanded sampling area.

We heard the feedback from the community loud and clear at the last few community meetings at the Ada Jenkins Center, and the EPA is coming back in to offer another round of testing. This is for those of you who may not have opted into testing back in 2017, or maybe you are new to the area or inherited your home and your property wasn't tested a couple years back, or maybe you've simply changed your mind! No matter the reason, we heard from many residents that they wanted the option to have their properties tested, and we're really glad the EPA and NCDEQ are able to offer that to you all.

Please be assured that these agencies are *ONLY* talking about testing your properties at this point – you will not need to relocate. You certainly do not have to pack up and go stay in a hotel while testing is happening. We're still in a public health crisis, and we're all "safer at home," and no one has any intention of displacing any people in your neighborhood. The staff from the EPA and NCDEQ are professionals and will conduct the testing while keeping everyone in the community safe. I want to make sure you know that so that even if you decide not to get your parcel tested and your neighbor does, it doesn't mean you have to worry about going outside that day. The experts are taking every precaution to make sure proper procedures are followed and testing is completed safely.

That said, I would encourage you to strongly consider getting your property tested while you still can. Of course, it's your land and your decision, but I also know how much we value community in Davidson and would think any property owner would want to know if they have asbestos containing-material in their soil or not. If you don't, you can rest a little easier. If you do, then you can take advantage of the opportunity of working with the EPA over the next few months to have your property cleaned up and made safer for your family and also your neighborhood.

I certainly don't claim to be an expert about all the science behind this, but I'm happy to talk to anyone who has questions or needs an ear. I know the EPA and NCDEQ are hoping to hear back from you as soon as possible so they can get to work on all this. You can call my cell phone directly at 704-641-7301 anytime to chat.

Yours,

Mayor Rusty Knox