

Developer to Inspect for Blast Damage

By RICHARD LEIGH
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The developers of the controversial William Center have agreed to inspect homes neighboring the construction site for any possible damage that may have been caused by blasting.

"We have had our houses shaken by the blasts for the tunneling under Interstate 66 as well as the blasting in the areas of the William Center boulevard and the sewer lines," according to an Aug. 11 letter signed by 30 area residents representing 19 homes, 10 of which requested inspections. The signers live on Gen. Longstreet's Line, Grovelton Road, and Gen. Warren Avenue. This

neighborhood is on the project's eastern border.

"We are now making arrangements to have the homes of people who requested inspections inspected in order to form a baseline" condition of the properties in order to determine any future damage that may be caused by blasting, said Robert Kelly, Hazel-Peterson spokesman, this morning.

"Our main concern is our well, which the blasting might cause to go dry, and the foundation to our house," said Margaret Edwards of Grovelton Road, one of the letter's signers, Tuesday. "And the blasting is very loud."

The letter informed Hazel-

Peterson that the signing residents held the developer responsible for any damage to their homes caused by blasting.

"Because of the rapid pace by which the blasting is progressing along the sewer line, now within a few hundred yards of the contiguous properties, it is urgent that the requested inspections be conducted immediately," the letter said.

Kelly said he did not know when inspectors would view the homes. However, Edwards said she understood that Hazel-Peterson would have inspectors view the exterior of the houses Wednesday and the interiors Saturday.

"There are considerable rock

formations under our property as well as the William Center property," the letter said. "Some of the adjoining houses have basements that were cut out of these rock formations. One home, located within 80 feet of your property line, does not have a basement and is setting directly on top of the rock formation. Our wells are drilled through these rock strata."

Construction plans show that sewer and water lines were to be run along the back boundary lines of three Grovelton Road homes which adjoin the William Center. The distances from the water and sewer lines to the homes and wells range

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from 80 to 150 feet, and the wells range in depth from 50 to 120 feet, the letter indicated.

"We are extremely concerned about the imminent blasting in the immediate proximity of the wells and houses" on Grovelton Road, the letter said.

"We are concerned about the impact of the continued blasting on

the neighborhood as a whole. Our concerns are for the ominous repercussions or reverberations to these properties, such as structural or cosmetic damage to the houses and outbuildings, damage to the septic systems, or the disruption or the rerouting of the underground streams, thus diminishing the water supply to our wells or causing the wells to dry up."