

Print

Board of Commissioners Voting Meeting Comments - April 9, 2026 - Submission #140433

Date Submitted: 4/8/2026

Comments completed in the form below will be submitted into the record for the April 9, 2026 Voting Meeting of the Hall County Board of Commissioners.

First Name*

Rachel

Last Name*

Muxlow

Address1*

6250 Ben Parks Rd

Address2

City*

Murrayville

State*

GA

Zip*

30564

Item for Comment*

6245, 6249 & 0 Ben Parks Road

Select from the list below which item you would like to register a comment on. Items are listed in the order in which they appear on the agenda.

Your Comments*

To those responsible for decisions regarding the property directly across from our home:

I am writing as a mother, a supporter of agricultural and rural land preservation, and someone deeply invested in maintaining the character of this community.

Our perspective comes from experience. Before moving here, our family spent seven years in Rockingham County, Virginia, where we intended to build a long-term home and operate a family beef cattle farm. We purchased agricultural land, kept it zoned as such, and obtained a special use permit to build our home. Our farm quickly became successful, and we fully expected to remain there for years to come.

However, in a short period of time, the surrounding landscape changed dramatically. The farmer we had bought from was elected to planning commissioner and began selling off his property, much of which he rezoned for commercial and residential development. His son acquired his contractor license and began the development of the land with his daughter in law as real estate agent. This shift accelerated as those involved in the development process gained influence within local planning decisions. What had been a rural, agricultural area rapidly transformed into subdivisions and higher-density development.

By 2020, the effects of this growth were evident. Schools became overcrowded, and the sense of shared community identity began to erode. Long-standing residents found themselves in a very different environment than the one they had known. At the same time, broader institutional changes—such as hospital system consolidation—further altered the local landscape, affecting both healthcare and the professional community.

Ultimately, we made the difficult decision to leave. We sought a place where our children could grow up in a stable, connected community and where we could continue to support and live within an agricultural/rural environment.

That is why we chose Hall County.

When deciding to move here, we paid close attention to the values of the community. We felt aligned with its priorities, its people, and its commitment to preserving its character. My husband also saw an opportunity to practice in a setting where he could serve patients without the constraints of large, distant corporate systems.

For these reasons, I am deeply concerned about the proposed rezoning of this property.

While I understand that Thumbs Up is a respected organization, rezoning agricultural or rural land to commercial use sets a precedent. Once that precedent is established, it becomes increasingly difficult to deny similar requests in the future. Over time, this can lead to rapid and irreversible changes to the character of the area.

Zoning decisions shape communities. Changes to the land lead to changes in development patterns, which ultimately affect the people who live there. The strength of this area lies in its history, its families, and its generational ties. Preserving that should remain a priority.

In addition to these broader concerns, there are also practical and safety issues:

- This property is prone to flooding.
- The turn from Wade Wheelchel Road is already dangerous, particularly for young drivers (I have two). Increased traffic would only heighten that risk.
- Additional traffic entering and exiting a commercial development at that location would create congestion and visibility concerns.
- The water flow through Wahoo Creek, which supports our property and garden, could be affected.
- Local wildlife and the natural environment would be disrupted.

For all of these reasons, I strongly oppose the proposed rezoning of this property.

I sincerely wish the best for Thumbs Up and hope they are able to find a location that is already appropriately zoned for their intended use.

Thank you for your time and for considering the concerns of those who call this community home.

Sincerely,
Rachel Muxlow

Please write your comments in the box above.

File Upload

No file chosen

If you have files, such as photos, videos or text documents to include with your comments, upload them in the box above.

Follow-up Communication

Please contact at remuxlow@gmail.com or 5408300941

Would you like a Hall County staff member to follow up with you? If so, please leave your email address or phone number in the box above. Otherwise, leave this box blank.