



Heritage Office Complex  
2662 Riva Road  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Ronald E. Bowen, P.E.  
Director, Department of Public Works

April 2, 2012

RE: Declaration of Invalid Petition - London Towne

Dear Resident:

Anne Arundel County's Office of Law has completed a comprehensive legal evaluation of the London Towne petition and the complexities of defining the petition boundaries. Section 13-5-303(a) of Anne Arundel County Code expressly requires that the boundaries of the proposed area for the extension of water or wastewater facilities be specified in the petition signed by the owners. The extension of public water or wastewater facilities upon petition by property owners under § 13-5-303 has significant due process implications, because the approval by the requisite percentage of owners within the area may result in a financial obligation that is imposed on all of the owners of property within that district or area. In the case of extensions of public water or wastewater facilities, those financial burdens can be substantial.

The "defined area" as it now stands was not defined in the petition that was signed by the property owners. The London Towne petition is therefore not valid under the Code, and the County cannot proceed with this petition project as the petition was submitted.

We recognize that the Community's desire to obtain public water service has been extremely difficult. We have debated at length the multitude of challenges that contribute to meeting the Community's desire for public water service while maintaining compliance with the County Code. We have concluded that further efforts to meet the Community needs will require a new petition. We have a new form and are willing to meet with anyone interested in beginning the process anew.

Please contact Ms. Leslie Campbell, Manager, Financial Services, at (410)-222-7519 or by email [lcampbell@aacounty.org](mailto:lcampbell@aacounty.org) if you have any questions or wish to meet to start the process again.

Sincerely,

Ronald E. Bowen, P.E.,  
Director

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