



## THE EXPRESS-TIMES

### Forks supervisors approve condo plan

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By **COURTNEY LOMAX**  
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FORKS TWP. | Developer Robert Cahill can build 36 condominiums near a 100-year flood plain despite two supervisors' concerns about future occupants' safety.

Supervisors voted 3-2 Thursday in favor of building The Courts at Newlins Road on 13.9 acres in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Newlins Road and Sullivan Trail.

Supervisors Bonnie Nicholas and C. David Howell voted against the development. Supervisors Donald Miller and John Ackerman and Chairman David Hoff voted in favor of it.

Township planners voted 6-1 last month to deny the plans for safety reasons, township engineer Fred Hay said.

Howell said he couldn't vote in favor of the plans because of the potential problems it might cause in other parts of the township and the development's proximity to a flood plain.

"So where's the lake going to be?" Howell said about the increase in water.

Nicholas agreed and said supervisors previously agreed to abide by the Two Rivers Area Greenway Plan, which specifically says not to build on or near flood plains, Nicholas said.

Fidel Gonzalez, the developer's attorney, said nothing was being built on or near the swale or the flood plain. A row of trees and shrubs will be planted along the flood plain so residents can easily see the drop in the land.

The developer is building a storm water pipe under Sullivan Trail to eliminate flooding problems.

Hay said the plans meet federal, state and township storm water regulations.

The condominiums will be about 2,000 square feet with 100-foot backyards, Cahill said. Construction is set to begin as early as the spring.

"They're going to be quality," Cahill said of the condos.

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