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## Slipping up at Falls Lake

The July 2 Business section article "Send in the marina" concerned me for numerous reasons.

This appears to be another attempt by developers to open up the Falls Lake watershed for commercial development by getting a foot in the door with restaurants and conference centers.

I do not believe that 150 boat slips would be open to the public. Wakefield Development would get first choice on all 150 for their luxury home dwellers. Next there would be a shopping center and office buildings. Why should Wakefield have exclusive use of the adjoining waters to Raleigh's drinking and recreational water?

The article noted that \$210,000 had been spent on a study conducted by the Army Corp of Engineers. A complete design by the Corps would cost \$1.5 million. I don't think this is a wise or necessary expenditure of taxpayer money at any level of government.

One statement particularly concerned me: "And the development of lakefront property has long been a goal of local officials." This is subject to some interpretation. Considering the subject of the article, a marina for Wakefield, does this mean our local officials favor using public funds to subsidize private business? I believe it does. The private development of lakefront property can only hurt the ordinary citizens who use the lake for many purposes.

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