

Planning and Development Committee

To Whom It Concerns:

I am a homeowner with seriously deteriorating concrete foundation. I am the original owner. My home was being built mid-1984 (part of a 26-lot subdivision). I took ownership January, 1985. Most of my neighbors that I have talked with have concerns, to varying degrees. Three owners made repairs to all or part of their foundations. I am aware to two homeowners who 'walked away' from their home leaving it to the mortgage holder. They may have been undergoing serious financial problems but word-of-mouth revealed the foundation condition was a major factor voiced by prospective buyers (no one wants to assume this burden.)

I have made claim to my insurance carrier, AMICA. To date AMICA has come to my home and property several times. They sent two professional engineers (structural and concrete), independent insurance underwriter, and drilling contractor. They performed inspections, asked questions, took numerous pictures, drilling and removing (4-in diameter) samples of the concrete walls and drilling outside the foundation area to sample soil, rock and install a well-point system to measure ground water. The concrete cores are being analyzed. They expect a report be made available to me shortly. At this point I'm not sure what the results will be but am hopeful this information will prove to be of benefit to all (self, other homeowners, State of Connecticut and Federal officials concerned and seeking remedies for everyone impacted.)

Last week I submitted an appeal to the Board of Assessment, Vernon, CT to revise the Assessed Value of my home.

Of interest to you, I possess a legal document I discovered with the 'closing' documents when I took ownership. It is titled; WAIVER OF MECHANIC'S LIENS dated January 7, 1985. It lists all of the trades responsible in the building of my home. Adjacent to the trade, Redi-Mix Concrete is the name J.J. Mottes Co., *illegible signature*, Mgr. The document is signed by the general contractor and court official.

I eagerly await the results of all the testimony, testing and completion of findings. I believe the only remedy is for complete removal and replacement to the damaged foundation walls. In my home the two-car garage frost walls show similar damage that will need future replacement.

The big question is money! Will the State of Connecticut with help from the federal agency FEMA address this problem? What about the homeowners with financial means to do so having made the costly replacement? These individuals should be addressed.

Last, there are many homes, businesses, multiple-dwelling situations that may be unknown. I suggest increasing public notifications to bring awareness and promote identifying the extent.

Respectfully,

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