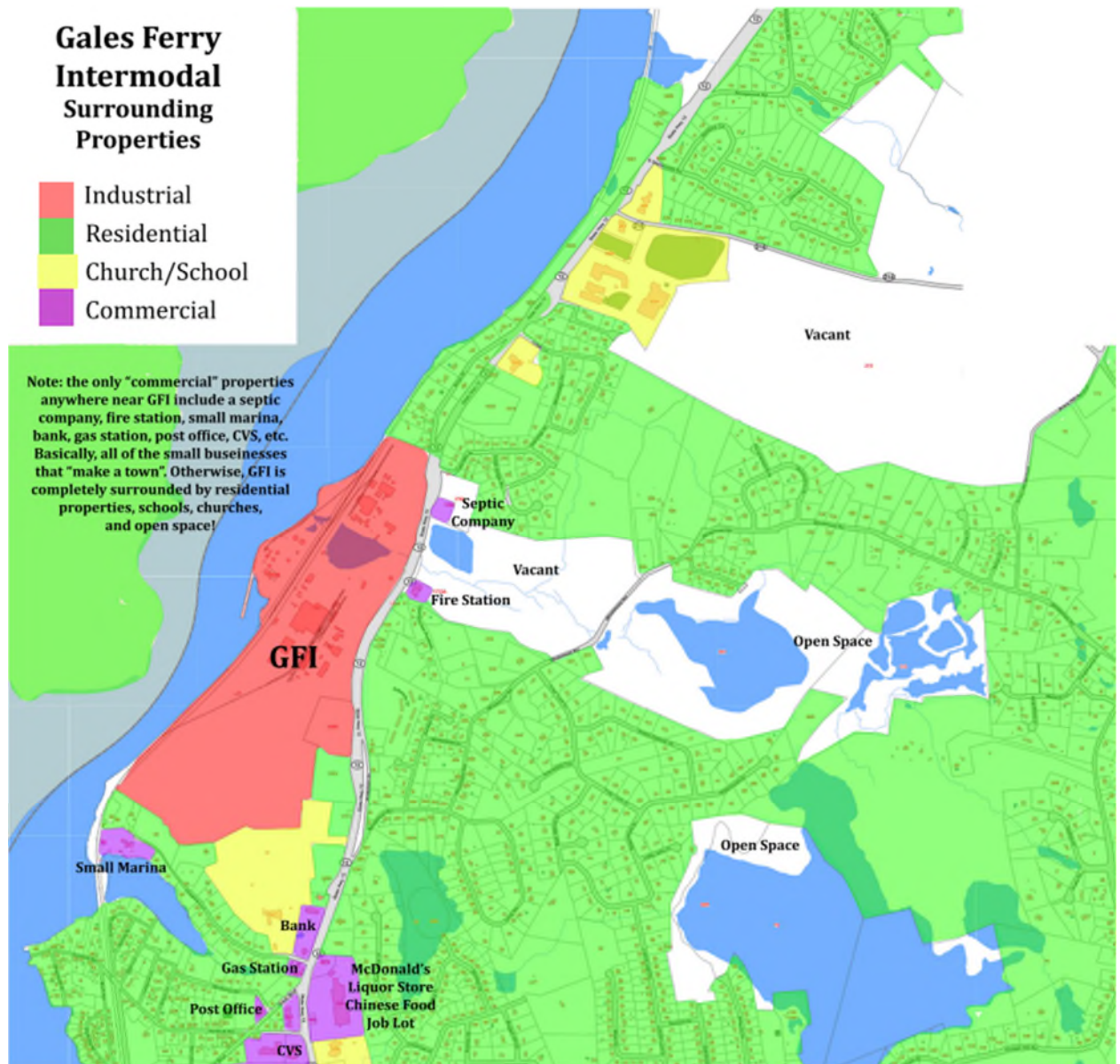


Dear Ms. Pestana:

Gales Ferry District is a taxing municipality within the village of Gales Ferry representing over 500 households. The District is managed by an elected Board of Directors whose purpose is to represent the interests of the District. While Gales Ferry is part of Ledyard and Planning and Zoning (P&Z) is managed through Ledyard, the Gales Ferry District is an interested party. We are voicing our concerns through P&Z and our elected Ledyard officials, but we also need a “seat at the table” as this proposed facility will impact our quality of life.

We are asking your assistance in addressing concerns voiced by our residents as we are not getting consistent responses from Cashman Dredging & Marine Contracting Co., LLC (Cashman). We recognize that you have received these concerns previously from members of a committee of concerned citizens. However, we want to be clear that this message is coming from the Gales Ferry District’s elected officials.

As you are aware, Cashman has purchased property previously owned by Dow Chemical and they intend to use this property to process, stockpile, and transport dredged spoils. This property is the only major industrial parcel located in Gales Ferry, and it is surrounded by residential neighborhoods. Please note that this fact conflicts with Cashman’s description of the surrounding area in their EJPPP application, which states, “The vicinity surrounding the site to the north, south and east includes residential areas and various industrial, retail and commercial businesses.” While there are certainly non-residential areas if you go far enough “north, south, and east”, virtually all sides of Cashman’s new piece of property are abutted by, or across the street from, purely residential neighborhoods. Also, those non-residential area are what makes a community a community—schools, a bank, houses of worship, restaurants, doctors’ offices, small local businesses, a small post office, a firehouse, a drug store, and a small retail shopping center. There is no major industry here. Certainly, Dow Chemical owned and operated a facility in Gales Ferry, but their operations were limited and were not on the scale proposed by Cashman.



Our residents are concerned about how this new business could adversely impact our community. Their concerns include, but are not limited to:

- Potential pollution, impairment, or destruction of our air, water, wildlife, and other natural resources
- The safety of the motoring public due to undue traffic generation and congestion
- Odors, fumes, dust, noise, vibrations, etc. and their adverse impact on the surrounding community
- Degradation of local property values

As Cashman has not responsive to our inquiries and is inconsistent in their messaging between written documentation and its sole public meeting (which was cut short), we are reaching out to you to request a meeting with you and/or others within DEEP to help us better understand your review and approval process as it relates to Cashman's proposed use of this property.

We need to know how we can best ensure that Cashman (and DEEP) will protect and preserve our quaint little community. Please let us know when we can meet. We will come to you, at any location at any time.

We are not against dredging. We are against locating this facility so close to residential properties. We need to protect our community and the surrounding ecosystems.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lee Ann Anderson
President, Gales Ferry District

On behalf of the Board of Directors