

m MINNESOTA
INDIAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL

To the City of Eden Prairie Planning Division, Pulte Holmes, and John Standal.

Over the last year numerous citizens have called or emailed our office regarding the potential Noble Hill/Pulte housing development located in Eden Prairie. At the time, our office didn't have any knowledge of there being any known or suspected burials located on the property in question. However, on January 24th our office was forwarded a LiDAR analysis report done by David Maki of Archaeo Physics LLC. The report highlights that there are several LiDAR anomalies on the property that have the potential to be mortuary related. This newly gathered information thus changes our stance and raises several concerns to our office.

Under MS 307.08, it is a felony for anyone to knowingly disturb known or suspected human burials or burial grounds on either public or private lands or waters in Minnesota. [REDACTED]

An archaeological survey would be able to determine the probability of the property containing burials. Any such survey would need to also be done in consultation with our offices, and because the burials would be of American Indian origin, my office would have to approve of the consultant doing the work (MS 307.08, Subd 3A). I'd recommend consultation with my office and the Office of the State Archaeologist on further investigating the LiDAR findings before moving forward with any development.

An archaeological survey was done on portions of the property by Christina Harrison in 2005, however it wasn't done with the perspective of burials in mind nor is it sufficient to minimize my offices concerns. Please feel free to contact myself or the State Archaeologist Office to discuss MS307.08 or the property and development any further. I've attached a copy of MS 307.08 to this letter, as well as the LiDAR findings forwarded to my office.

Sincerely,

Dylan Goetsch

Cultural Resource Specialist, Minnesota Indian Affairs Council

CC: Amanda Gronhovd, State Archaeologist