



September 21, 2017

Dear Officials,

Good afternoon, my name is Chris McCoy and I am a Senior Field Director for the North Carolina chapter of Americans for Prosperity, the state's largest free market grassroots advocacy organization.

We want to thank the county for abiding by state law and seeing public comment.

Americans for Prosperity-North Carolina wants to send the message to Guilford County and High Point City officials that our activists are not okay with any proposal which seeks to use taxpayer money to subsidize the construction of this stadium.

Our organization opposes corporate welfare of all kinds, and stadium subsidies are a good example of that. Why should local taxpayers be forced to foot half the bill for a \$30 million stadium used by wealthy, professional sports teams? Corporate welfare for sports stadiums is a reverse-Robin Hood, where taxpayers are fleeced to make rich people richer.

I understand this proposal is meant to act as a "catalyst" for economic growth, but stadium subsidies are a clear misuse of my hard-earned money.

Too often the economic benefits of subsidizing sports stadiums fail to outweigh investments, leaving taxpayers on the hook for millions. Just look to New Jersey or Connecticut, where residents paid millions for baseball stadiums that now stand vacant.

Additionally, corporate welfare creates an unfair playing field for businesses. Why is it that some lines of business – like sports stadiums or the film industry – get help from the government, but others don't?

This isn't about sports. This is about taxpayers being on the hook for millions.

Corporate welfare is a bad play for Guilford County. Our activists stand at the ready to oppose any proposal that misappropriates taxpayer money to High Point's stadium project, and we will hold accountable any elected official eager to give away taxpayer dollars to politically-favored cronies in High Point.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Chris McCoy  
Senior Field Director, Americans for Prosperity-North Carolina