

## Thompson, Matthew A - DNR

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**From:** Tom Kilian <tkilian@kilianimc.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 24, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Thompson, Matthew A - DNR; Rozeboom, David B - DNR  
**Subject:** Work Plan, Community Involvement, and Environmental Justice: 02-37-584785  
RIVERSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR

Good Morning Matt and David,

<https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2020/01/24/dnr-docs-city-official-kept-park-cleanup-plan-from-public/>

While I am aware that it is generally not the department's role or responsibility to get involved in a municipality's relations with its community, I thought it would be appropriate to bring this matter to your attention, particularly since

1. the municipality is identified as a Responsible Party by the DNR for the site at hand
2. the DNR and DNR personnel were specifically invoked by Mr. Lindman when these inaccurate statements were made to the public and committee during a local government proceeding on January 6
3. and these matters impact confirmed Environmental Justice (EJ) populations in Wausau based on available income and minority data. In addition to other EJ principals which appear to have been violated in this instance, environmental justice defines "Fair Treatment" as people "having an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health," according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Clearly, if key documents such as work plans are intentionally withheld from public awareness and review, and inaccurate statements are made in regard to that withholding, there is no meaningful ability for citizens to participate in the described decisions and activities.

For additional information on this recent matter, please see the REI workplan dated December 31, 2019 on BRRTS which the department confirmed it received on December 31, 2019:

[https://dnr.wi.gov/botw/DownloadBlobFile.do?docSeqNo=145426&docName=20191231\\_35\\_SIWP.pdf](https://dnr.wi.gov/botw/DownloadBlobFile.do?docSeqNo=145426&docName=20191231_35_SIWP.pdf)

And statements made to the public on January 6, 2020 Wausau Parks & Recreation Committee meeting:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVHk1\\_7r0F4&feature=youtu.be&t=1127](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVHk1_7r0F4&feature=youtu.be&t=1127)

Given the serious of this matter and the fact that it impacts EJ populations here in town, I wanted both of you to be apprised of the situation. I would hope that the department reaffirms its commitment to

Environmental Justice in Wisconsin by cautioning the City that such behavior is unacceptable and should not occur again.

Sincerely,

Tom Kilian