

Judge tosses suit against Deyerle townhomes

Roanoke Rambler May 14, 2025

A Roanoke judge has thrown out a citizens lawsuit against a **Deyerle** townhome project, one of three lawsuits filed after zoning reforms that eased multifamily housing construction.

Circuit Court Judge Leisa K. Ciaffone said the homeowners who brought the lawsuit failed to make their case against the proposed development on **Medmont** Circle Southwest.

“The Medmont Rezoning was reasonable and has substantial factual support,” she wrote in a May 6 opinion letter. “It was properly noticed and the community had ample opportunity to convey comments and reactions to the rezoning.”

Neighbors sued the city and the project company of developer **Alexander Boone** after City Council rezoned the property last July to allow for 24 townhomes. The subdivision has about 48 single-family homes.

Lead plaintiff **James Garrett**, who brought the lawsuit along with a dozen other homeowners, ran for City Council unsuccessfully last year on a platform opposed to zoning reforms.

Garrett referred questions to attorney **John Fishwick**.

“We are disappointed but respect the Court’s decision. Our clients are evaluating their options moving forward,” Fishwick said in an email.

[The city is also fighting two lawsuits that directly challenge policies enacted last year that ended single-family-only zoning.](#) While the Medmont lawsuit did not take aim at the zoning reforms specifically, it made similar arguments as those other lawsuits.

Those lawsuits, led by residents **Kristin Segelke** and **Anthony Stavola**, argue the city failed to give proper notice about the changes and that the policies would lead to traffic congestion, noise and quality of life problems. The city is asking the court to dismiss them.