

## Cooner, Tara

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**From:** Adam Mestres  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 9:34 AM  
**To:** Jarrell, Chuck; Cooner, Tara  
**Subject:** Fwd: Thank you for what you're doing for our community

Adam Mestres, MPA  
County Manager  
Morgan County  
150 East Washington Street  
Madison, GA 30650  
706-342-0725

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**From:** Mark Wilson <mark.wilson.ga@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 9:23:00 AM  
**To:** Philipp von Hanstein <pvonhanstein@morgancountyga.gov>; Mark Williams <mwilliams@morgancountyga.gov>; Harris, Donald <dharris@morgancountyga.gov>; Ainslie, Andy <aainslie@morgancountyga.gov>; Ben Riden <briden@morgancountyga.gov>; Bill Kurtz <bkurtz@morgancountyga.gov>; Adam Mestres <amestres@morgancountyga.gov>  
**Subject:** Thank you for what you're doing for our community

Good morning!

Like everyone in Morgan County, I received a questionable postcard (no return address, no mention of who had composed it) suggesting that we contact you to let you know how we really think about the Rivian project. I would suggest for every person who opposes the project there are ten or more who are excited about this direction for Morgan County. People who are satisfied are less likely to speak up, so I wanted to do so, and **THANK YOU** for the vision and courage you have displayed in bringing good jobs and a sustainable future to Morgan County and the larger community represented in the JDA.

My experience in education has made it clear the impact the community a child lives in has on her/his academic success. Research from the National Dropout Prevention Center for decades has underscored that student performance can be traced in nearly-equal thirds to the influence of the school, the influence of one's family/parents, and finally, the influence of the community.

The work I do now (supporting school leaders in communities across Georgia from Alpha to Omega and in between) has given me a front-row seat to that understanding: communities without jobs are often communities without hope. Hope is the pathway to motivating children to do their best in school and offer them individually and the community at large its greatest potential.

People where I travel are extremely envious of our growth through the JDA and in particular Rivian. Communities across Georgia would give anything to switch places with us. We are already viewed as a jewel, and this addition makes our community even stronger.

Again, I'm sorry for the momentary pushback you're receiving from a small, vocal chorus, but again, a sincere thanks for your vision and courage in building a community of opportunities for our young people and those to follow us. Remember what Einstein is quoted as saying regarding progress:

*Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds.*

Gratefully,  
Dr. Mark Wilson  
MCHS Principal (2003-2012)  
Leadership Developer and Coach



**Dr. Mark Wilson**  
**The Leadership School**

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**From:** [Adam Mestres](#)  
**To:** [Jarrell, Chuck](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: I support the Rivian Plant Morgan County  
**Date:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 2:11:06 PM

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Adam Mestres, MPA  
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**From:** Bill Kurtz <[bkurtz@morgancountyga.gov](mailto:bkurtz@morgancountyga.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 2:08:42 PM  
**To:** Adam Mestres <[amestres@morgancountyga.gov](mailto:amestres@morgancountyga.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: I support the Rivian Plant Morgan County

FYI  
Bill

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Harris Little <[mga60@yahoo.com](mailto:mga60@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** January 20, 2022 at 1:00:08 PM EST  
**To:** Philipp von Hanstein <[pvonhanstein@morgancountyga.gov](mailto:pvonhanstein@morgancountyga.gov)>, Ben Riden <[briden@morgancountyga.gov](mailto:briden@morgancountyga.gov)>, Bill Kurtz <[bkurtz@morgancountyga.gov](mailto:bkurtz@morgancountyga.gov)>, "Harris, Donald" <[dharris@morgancountyga.gov](mailto:dharris@morgancountyga.gov)>, "Ainslie, Andy" <[aainslie@morgancountyga.gov](mailto:aainslie@morgancountyga.gov)>  
**Subject:** I support the Rivian Plant Morgan County

Hello all, I am writing to offer enthusiastic support for the proposed Rivian plant in the Morgan County area. My name is Harris Little, I'm the Mayor of Carnesville, GA, a small town on I-85 in north Georgia. I'm also Vice-Chairman of the Franklin County Industrial Building Authority, more importantly to this conversation I'm a Morgan County property owner. I'm unsure how long any of you have lived in Morgan County or if you would remember my grandfather T.D. Kemp or my Aunt Frances Orr. I spent many a summer evening on the porch of my grandmother's house at 421 N. Main St. as I was growing up. My family still owns a farm on the Bethany Rd. that I visit often. I'm a member of the Madison-Morgan Conservancy and I try to keep up with things happening in and around Madison. I know you have all received more than an earful of late regarding the proposed Rivian Plant. I want to simply encourage you all to approve the zoning requests on the property and help make the largest ever investment in the State of Georgia come to fruition.

Thank you for your service and your time.

**From:** [Nancy Willis](#)  
**To:** [Ainslie, Andy](#)  
**Cc:** [Adam Mestres](#); [Jarrell, Chuck](#)  
**Subject:** Rah Rah Rivian and JDA from Nancy Willis  
**Date:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 6:01:08 PM

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Hi, Andy. I've not seen you for quite a while, but I have been watching. You have been dealing with quite some heavy duties for our County and I want to say, "Keep up the good work."

Since I am a concerned citizen and you and I are both living close to the proposed new Rivian plant I want to let you know about my feelings concerning the development of the JDA project for Rivian and Morgan County. As you probably know, I live on Deerwood Drive and have 25 acres in the our development which is off Hightower and I pass your homestead every time I go out (not so often these days). By the way, I really enjoy watching your beautiful cattle herds growing and recycling.

I understand it will be a while before we realize the financial fruits of this undertaking, but I see nothing but good things in the future, of course with a few caveats. Many of my concerns have been addressed and I trust our County overseers to guard and preserve in our best interest. Several challenges I join other citizens in pointing out are:

- Water Supply - I am in an area where my water supply is provided by well, a very deep well so, of course I have environmental concerns.

- Road maintenance - Although the closest State/US routes I-20 and 278 will be GDOT responsibility and a new exit to I 20 will be a big

help, I see many of our county roads as areas of concern. Since it will be a while before Rivian tax consequences will get to the point

of support, we will need to increase local road budget requirements. I see Dixie Highway as one of my prime concerns.

- Light pollution will affect those living close. Sorry about that. Also, of more concern is the effect on UGA Observatory at Hard Labor

Creek. I hope something can be arranged to help them.

Of course, there are many other concerns which our County employees and elected officials will need to be "watching" as we all must work to make this development a

good addition to Morgan County. I am excited to see how well Stanton Springs has grown and developed to date, mingling the industrial with our agricultural surroundings. As long as we can maintain this type of growth and not let it overwhelm our County, we will all be fine.

As a former employee I know how hard you all work to keep us going forward and I will be cheering you on as you care for us all. It is not true that all Georgia citizens say "Georgia says No to Rivian"! I am one who says "Georgia says Go to Rivian"! Go, Morgan County. Go, Rivian.

Nancy Willis

I

706-557-9173 home

706-474-0557 cell

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