

Work at Short Pump farm site likely soon

The Short Pump farm that has become a serene oddity in the crowded shopping mecca could begin losing trees and having its topsoil stripped by next week.

Developers of West Broad Village, a major residential, retail and commercial project, expect to receive permission from Henrico County to start preliminary work on the site, planning commissioners were told yesterday.

The developers asked commissioners yesterday to approve some detailed plans for utility work, grading and buffers, but the commission deferred a decision until August to give staff time to review the plans.

Some residents had vowed to oppose this step if other project issues were not addressed, but only two residents spoke to the planners yesterday.

One resident, Micky Ogburn, said she represented five subdivisions. She told the commission that residents of the subdivisions take little issue with the initial requests.

She said they are more concerned about reducing the 884 residences planned and limiting the two planned office towers to 13 stories rather than the 18 currently approved.

— Olympia Meola