

October 18, 2013

Members of the Board
Board of Selectmen
35 Central St., 2nd Floor
Stoneham, MA 02180

RE: New England Fund Site Approval Application (Project Eligibility) for The Commons at Weiss Farm, 170 Franklin St.

To our Board of Selectmen,

The regulations of the Department of Housing and Community Development have instituted a 30 day project eligibility application review beginning on October 11, 2013. The review process allows written comments from local boards and other interested parties. It's important that we, as citizens of Stoneham, comment to the Housing Department.

I believe we all agree that the amount of additional traffic that will be entering Franklin St. conjures up a safety nightmare. Children riding bicycles or walking, joggers and pedestrians are all in danger of being injured because of the increased traffic. Solar glare is also an issue on Franklin St., adding to increased accidents that will occur.

There is also a very important issue, which is wetlands protection. Weiss Farm has historically had issues with wetlands, in fact, it was fined by DEP on 12/14/2010. and was required to "address accumulated stormwater and maintain a condition that does not allow flooding of a pump access road or further degrade wetland resource areas". The final decision on April 11, 2011, upheld this penalty. (Docket #2011-001, File #ACO-NE-6W002-STP). The issue of stormwater and wetlands is important to the well-being and health of our citizens. By indicating that they will not build on areas that are considered wetlands, Corcoran & Co. are hiding the problem. Much of this water runs underground and any building project of this magnitude will greatly deteriorate the wetlands and stormwater flow.

During this 30-day period, there will be a site inspection by Mass Housing. Please attend this inspection on October 28, 2013. We all need to be proactive in protecting the residents of this town.

Thank you,



Camille Chesnick
2 Sparhawk Circle
Stoneham, MA