

May 27, 2014

Mass Housing
Gregory Watson
One Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Gregory Watson:

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

On May 19th a meeting that you mandated Corcoran to hold with the Town of Stoneham was done. As a resident and taxpayer for the Town of Stoneham and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts I was deeply disappointed in this developer's lack of concern over the serious issues facing our community with a development of this magnitude.

As an agency that came into being solely through the votes of residents of the Commonwealth, it is your responsibility to represent both the towns and developers who are striving for affordable housing. You are charged with representing the town of Stoneham in demanding that the developer not build such a large complex to the detriment of the town and surrounding areas. Please do not shirk this responsibility. Demand that Corcoran Co. return to the drawing board and design buildings that are in keeping with the town's concerns. This is not NIMBY by the residents of Stoneham. It is a legitimate concern that the long term damage of this complex will impact residents long after the developer is gone

The Corcoran Group has demonstrated a total lack of wanting to work with our community on creating a development with good solid design that is appropriate to the site at Weiss Farm and is beneficial to the community and the developer.

He failed to address our serious concerns of:

- ✓ Flooding to surrounding neighborhoods of Stoneham and Melrose
- ✓ Grave concerns of water contamination and sewerage
- ✓ Safety of children – less than quarter of mile there are 3 daycares, 1 high school, and the only entrance to a side street leading to an elementary school. The town denied a new middle school close to this location due to safety concerns
- ✓ Acute density of the area with pre-existing real estate
- ✓ Serious depletion of soil due to massive soil erosion from constructing buildings of these sizes
- ✓ Damage to the natural environment
- ✓ Totally against the topography and chemistry of surrounding neighborhood and the whole community of Stoneham

The updated design that was presented May 19th is merely a gloss over the original one. If in fact he actually builds or sells his options off to another outside of state contractor and his role is merely to get all the permits under the umbrella of CH 40B. If he does

how does that help the total economy of our state and free enterprise of at home businesses.

Corcoran showed up May 19th on your mandate but *had and has no intention of working with our community in creating a beneficial housing development for our town and the Commonwealth to address the need for low-income housing.*

Our State Senator Jason Lewis has sent letters condemning this present configuration of Corcoran's and so has Mayor Dolan of Melrose.

The benefits of CH 40 B are definitely not in the making by this developer. Above all the need for public safety should be tantamount in the decision making process. This development is a total affront to public safety and needs of our community and the Commonwealth.

We are a relatively small, hardworking middle class community. Our taxpayers cannot carry the additional burdens this project brings to Stoneham.

Please deny Corcoran the permit under CH 40B on the basis that he has not in good faith met with our community, listened to our concerns and created a good design for The Commons at Weiss Farm.

Sincerely,

Robert & Tara Lawler
53 Walsh Ave
Stoneham, MA 02180

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert & Tara Lawler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cc: Board of Selectman Chair Tom Boussy
35 Central Street
Stoneham, Ma 02180