

November 25, 2013

Ms. Katherine Lacy
AICP
One Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Lacy;

I am writing to voice my serious concerns/objections regarding the Weiss Farm/Commons Project, and have listed the following concerns/objections that I have regarding this development.

- I am a resident of Melrose, Massachusetts for over 35 years, and currently reside in the "highlands area" as described by Melrose residents. I live on Greenwood St., which is directly off of Franklin St., and use on Franklin St. on a daily basis to get to and from work. Obviously, use Franklin St. on the weekends as well.
- The traffic during the rush hour is horrendous, which is complicated by the commuter rail stop at Melrose Highlands. This is a concern for public safety and again the traffic backing up on Franklin St. close to the Melrose/Stoneham line. I believe the commuter rail stop is about a half of mile from the Melrose/Stoneham line. Please note residents from Stoneham walk or drive to the Highlands Commuter Rail Stop. Having taken the commuter rail in the past I have met people who live in Stoneham and park or walk the commuter rail stop at Melrose Highlands. I suggest the developer try exiting out of Greenwood St. to Franklin St. during these times. Or try sitting in traffic on Franklin Street when the commuter rail picks up or drops off passengers. It is a dangerous area with people trying to cross Franklin St. and cars exiting the parking area. I want to mention that an elderly gentleman that was killed last summer while attempting to cross Franklin St. I am at the point where I avoid Franklin St. and take another route just to reach my home.
- I am extremely concerned about the drainage problems for my home – like I said I live on Greenwood St., which is directly off of Franklin St., and am concerned with flooding and drain issues. Its common knowledge that when it rains, Weiss Farm gets flooded. This presents a problem to all the residents of Melrose Highlands.
- Between the high school, the day care, the Dunkin Donuts, the Montrose Condos, and new Arbor Apartments that are scheduled to open next Fall. Please explain to me what is going to happen with all of this traffic.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Jean Bartholomew
82 Greenwood St.
Melrose, MA 02176

cc: Stoneham Board of Selectman ✓
Gregory Watson, MassHousing