

**Town Engineer
Department of Public Works
16 Pine St
Stoneham Ma 02180**

July 11,2014

Re: The Commons at Weiss Farm

It is my understanding that the Corcoran Group filed a Comprehensive Permit on the Commons at Weiss Farm with the Stoneham Zoning Board of Appeals .The Stoneham Board of Appeals must hold a public hearing and must deliberate on this permit and consider what is best for our community. This board needs your expertise in arriving at a fair, equitable and an in depth analysis and decision on this development for the whole community. Based on your departments mission under the direction and guidance of the Public Works Director you are directly involved in all the activities of Public Works in planning, design, construction and renovation of our water, sewer and storm drainage piping.

You have the expertise on what happens when a development of this magnitude occurs in this geographic area. Your input is needed regarding what happens with soil erosion both on the construction site and the surrounding neighborhoods including our neighbors in Melrose. There are serious concerns about flood control, sedimentation control, erosion and impervious surfaces leading to safety and health issues. It is also of concern that our existing water and sewer mains in this particular area sit upon wooden piles that are 12 to 18 feet deep. The reason for these wooden piles is because of existing poor soil conditions. The demands of The Commons at Weiss Farm will place an excessive burden on an already strained system.

Your department has the responsibility of ensuring compliance with Federal, State and local regulations and as such your knowledge is vital to the members of the ZBA in making their decision.

I understand that under Chapter 18, Article VI, Section 18-37 of the Stoneham Town Code, as amended, the Zoning Board of Appeals must hold a public hearing within 30 days of receipt of the Application for Comprehensive Permit on the Commons at Weiss Farms, which was received by the ZBA on or about June 30. The ZBA may request the appearance of representatives or local officials, such as you, at the hearing if it considers it necessary or helpful in reviewing the Application. In making its decision, the ZBA must take into consideration the recommendations of local officials.

As our town engineer we are relying on your expertise to provide the ZBA with accurate and clear information that will benefit the Stoneham community.

Sincerely

**Paula and Jim Sarno
6 Ellen Rd
Stoneham MA 02180**

**Cc: Director of Public Works
Zoning Board of Appeals
Board of Selectmen**

