

36 Broadway
Stoneham, MA 02180
October 24, 2013

Mr. Thomas Boussy
Mr. John Di Pinto
Standing Committee for Weiss Farm Proposal
35 Central Street
Stoneham, MA 02180

Dear Mr. Boussy and Mr. DiPinto:

We ask that you work to discourage the development by Corcoran & Co. at Weiss Farm until we can study our needs for affordable housing and add to it in a thoughtful, manageable manner rather than in aggressive manner as presented. Unfortunately, this and previous Boards of Selectmen unfortunately have chosen to allow developers and lawyers to do the planning for the town rather than hire a qualified planner. The laxity of the boards to skirt the issues of planning for 40B housing has placed this town in a most unenviable position. Now we urge you to judiciously and aggressively confront it.

It is interesting to note that 40B developers are able to override zoning regulations at the expense of a community. Besides the concern of safety and environment is the fact that density and scale of such a project can be allowed. This project, if erected, will vastly go beyond the scale of its surroundings and totally redefine the nature of the neighborhood and even the town! To place a high-density project in a place that is doesn't belong is not desirable for anyone.

You must keep in mind the stress on Stoneham from the MWRA. Remember the loss of tax dollars from the storage tank? Add that to the three-year interference with highway/roadway for the pipeline construction to begin in 2014. This disruptive construction will represent a huge strain on this town's residents, services, businesses, etc. Now we are asked to consider another demand, a 40B housing development which will bring about an increased burden in an attempt to solve a housing affordability issue. This project will surely stretch the ability of Stoneham's resources in an attempt to provide additional services to accommodate a 40B project of the magnitude that is proposed. You must do whatever is necessary to work in behalf of Stoneham and its residents in order to protect your constituents from the inherent problems each of these issues.

It would seem prudent that you attend the walk-through of the Weiss Farm site that is scheduled for October 28 at 2:30 P.M.

Respectfully,



John and Mary Lou Bracciotti
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cc Board of Selectmen