

Friday, November 15, 2013

Stoneham Town Hall
Attention: Board of Selectmen
35 Central Street
Stoneham, MA 02180

Re: Weiss Farm Development Project

I am writing to you with great concern regarding the proposed project at the current Weiss Farm location. Given the location, existing traffic patterns and wetland issues, just to name a few, the building of the proposed 285 unit complex creates a huge detriment to the neighborhood and town of Stoneham at large. Let's also keep in mind the Abors Retirement complex which is already being built next door to Weiss Farm. This 90 unit facility will add to the already congested area.

I reside on a side street off of Franklin Street, in close proximity of Stoneham High School. Currently, it takes me approximately 5 – 7 minutes to exit my street in a vehicle during peak travel times. Peak travel times are highest at 6:45 am – 9:00 am and 2:30 pm – 7:00 pm. I question the integrity of the traffic studies that were conducted. If such studies were taken during the summer time then they are most definitely inaccurate and flawed; and not representative of typical traffic flow. Traffic is to be tracked when schools are in session. My experience has been that should traffic slow down for a car to enter the lane of traffic onto Franklin Street, the car entering the lane is exposed to hazards of fast oncoming cars trying to pass the driver who was courteous enough to allow for entering vehicles. I might add that the courteous drivers are few and far between! For a pedestrian to cross the street at Franklin Street, the wait time would increase from the 5-7 minute wait time.

The problems which will be created by such a development far out weigh any positives presented by Concoran and Co. There are more suitable land areas that can provide ample space for this contractor to move forward with their design. A large scale project such as this can be better executed else where in Stoneham or neighboring towns. Its place is not on Franklin Street!

I fully support the movement to oppose this project and am confident that my fellow town residents of Stoneham will pursue any necessary measures to stop it. I have forward a copy of this letter to Katherine Lacey as requested.

Regards,

Judy O'Brien

