

**From:** [Rick Taintor](#)  
**To:** [Barbara Dill](#); [Heather Grant](#); [James Bubar](#); [Lorne Parnell](#); [Paul Rasmussen](#); [Richard Kelley](#); [external forward for stobias](#); [William McGowan](#); [Raymond Philpot](#); [Eleanor Lonske](#); [Nicholas Germain](#); [Chuck Hotchkiss](#)  
**Cc:** [Karen Edwards](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Transformation at College Brook Shopping Plaza  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 12:24:06 PM

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**From:** Mike Brian [mailto:[mb.physiology@gmail.com](mailto:mb.physiology@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 10, 2021 10:13 AM  
**To:** Michael Behrendt  
**Subject:** Transformation at College Brook Shopping Plaza

Good Morning Michael,

My wife and I recently moved to Durham, NH, this past summer to teach at UNH. We've been enjoying the community and our house in the faculty neighborhood. However, we've recently heard about Durham's plans to allow additional student housing and parking structures in the College Brook Plaza.

We are strongly opposed to any desired changes to add student housing or additional parking structures near our neighborhood. Living at the corner of Faculty Road and Mill Pond, we have many traffic problems by people cutting through the neighborhood and typically blowing through the stop sign at our house. Additionally, surface runoff is a concern as well. We live right next to the brook, which has flooded the basement of our house, according to the previous owners.

New student housing in close proximity to the neighborhood will also increase student foot traffic. We worry about property damage and late-night activities. As a young college professor, I am familiar with the activities of college students these days. Please feel free to check out UNHBarstool's Instagram page. We are a young family. We don't want to deal with picking up after college students.

Lastly, the town should be concerned about the declining student enrollment at N.H. universities. I have been a part of task forces at USNH universities examining enrollment and retention challenges. These are complex challenges, but declining childbirth rates, high school graduation rates, N.H.'s aging population, poor funding of higher education, and competition with nearby states are leading to declines in UNH enrollment. It will ripple across UNH's student housing market (on-campus and off-campus). The town should avoid expanding student housing for the considerable future. Another consideration Durham should have with the newly proposed student housing, the growing costs of on and off-campus housing are driving student loan debt. I knew several landlords in Plymouth, NH. These landlords charged twice the rent toward students compared to family occupants. Students are paying more in rent in Durham, NH, as I did in Washington, D.C. It's a cash cow for landlords, but they have little concern for the community they impact or the massive increase in the national debt. It's a bad moral and ethical decision to have the town support.

Thank you for your time,

Michael