

From: Nancy Sandberg [mailto:nancy.sandberg@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2020 11:32 AM

To: sallyneedell@gmail.com

Cc: Michael Behrendt

Subject: For Distribution to the Conservation Commission

To Sally Needell, Conservation Commission Chair and Conservation Commission Members,

Thank you for the care and concern with which you are evaluating the potential impacts of the Colonial Durham Mill Plaza Development to our wetland and shoreland zones.

For over 50 years I have watched our town struggle to balance the pressures for growth with the needs of the community and the protection of our historic and environmental resources. The citizenry of our town have participated in countless Master Plans, Community Development conferences and in particular the Mill Plaza Study to allow for a downtown that is safe, attractive, scaled to people, meeting community needs, and protecting the environment.

The size of the Colonial Durham proposal is simply too big for the site. There is no excuse for it to impose itself into our wetland and shoreline buffers. The vegetative hillside to the east and College Brook to the south should not be sacrificed for both serve as critical environmental habitats and buffer zones to the Historic District and the Faculty Road Neighborhood.

I hope you will employ our Shoreland Protection and Wetland Protection Ordinances to advise the Planning Board to reject the Colonial Durham application and require that the Shoreland and Wetland Buffer Boundaries not be invaded.

Colonial Durham has not been a good neighbor over many years, whether for failing to fulfill its statutory obligations, violating zoning regulations, or for not being honest about the dimensions and impacts of the Mill Plaza proposal.

John Parry and Carol Birch have written thoughtful and specific letters with which I concur.

My home is three miles from downtown, but I care deeply how the Mill Plaza develops. The current proposal before you and the Planning Board is a bad fit for Durham now and in the future with the great changes that are coming to our university town.

Please explain to the Planning Board how this application fails to meet the town's environmental and conservation ordinances and request that they deny the conditional use permit.

Yours sincerely,

Nancy Sandberg
15 Langley Road