

**From:** [Pele Harrison](#)  
**To:** [Karen Edwards](#); [Rick Taintor](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mill Plaza pedestrian ramp  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2022 4:00:49 PM

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Dear Planning Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of my 2 kids, my husband and myself regarding the pedestrian pathway ramp from the Mill Plaza parking lot to Main Street.

My children are attending the ORMS and ORHS and use the ramp every school day for the most direct and safe access to school. They, along with a whole group of kids, ride their bikes to and from school when the weather allows. The proposal to remove the ramp and replace it with stairs means that all the kids coming from the Faculty Neighborhood that use the Chesley Dr. access to the parking lot would be going through the busier Hannaford parking area and around to Mill Rd. Then crossing Main St. in the middle of town and have to bike through the Pettee Brook parking lot behind Hayden Sports. This route is not nearly as safe and direct as crossing Main Street at the post office.

I personally know 20+ kids who use the ramp as their school route. Lets not forget the scores of elementary aged children in our neighborhood who will be using this route in the future as well as all the other adult residents and university students who also depend on this ramp when biking, walking, and pushing strollers through town.

I cherish the fact that our kids can walk and bike to school through a safe neighborhood and downtown area. The redevelopment of the Mill Plaza into a college student filled complex that our kids will have to navigate is a daunting thought. And to lose the bikeable ramp as well is disheartening. I hope that you will consider all the present and future children and their safety as you go forward with the decision making.

Please preserve the ramp!

Hannah Bogle 2-9-22 led the way!

Sincerely,  
Pele Harrison  
55 Mill Pond Rd.  
Durham

And Sean Harrison  
Darwin Harrison 16  
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