

February 3, 2022

Dear Planning Board Members,

First of all thank you for all the time and effort that has been spent in deciding on whether to approve the proposed Mill Plaza Plan. I, as others, are deeply concerned about the increased unnecessary noise level that this project will produce if approved.

Besides Chesley Drive and the Faculty Neighborhood being affected, my Church Hill home sits right at the back of this project, buffered only by trees which could be uprooted to create a parking lot, if approved by you.

We, as taxpayers and concerned citizens, deserve a say in this town's future, rather than outside interests who see dollar signs instead of what is best for Durham. There are so many reasons you should reject this terrible plan: increased traffic, decreased walkability, increased flooding, noise, and the loss of

any dream for what the center of town might come to be.

There are so many unknowns that are promised to be answered once approved, which then will be too late. I agree that the town needs an area that will attract families and social interaction rather than deter them from noisy crowds, a unique plaza which will draw visitors from other towns.

I trust that your decision will be made as if the plaza was in your backyard with careful deliberation spent on zoning and the predicted future of climate change. A slice of empathy on your part would also be helpful. The way the plaza is currently cared for is the way it will be. The ball and future is in your hands.

Thank you,

Sandy Ceponis Urso