

Sean Garballey Representative

Proudly Serving The People of Arlington and West Medford In The 23rd Middlesex District

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1020

CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
GLOBAL WARMING AND CLIMATE CHANGE

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 540 OFFICE: (617) 722-2090 FAX: (617) 722-2848 Sean.Garballey@MAhouse.gov

Arlington Conservation Commission 730 Mass Ave. Annex Arlington, MA 02476

Dear Members of the Conservation Commission,

As Chair of the Massachusetts House Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change, I write to express my continued opposition over the proposed development of the Mugar property.

The proposed Thorndike Place development would have drastic impacts on the Town of Arlington, and on our rapidly diminishing natural landscape. This 17-acre parcel is made up of crucial wetlands that protect the surrounding neighborhood of East Arlington from flooding.

Apart from weather-related impacts, construction and future traffic will result in the displacement of local flora and fauna, increase congestion from automobiles, and inevitably, their emissions will further erode the sanctity of one of the last untouched pieces of land left in the area. This area is very densely populated, and disturbances have the potential to affect a significant number of daily commuters who rely on public transportation.

I appreciate that you have brought in outside experts to research any potential disturbances that this potential project may cause, and I implore you to do everything in your power to further protect this habitat.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Sean Garballey

State Representative
23rd Middlesex District