



**Officers**

February 10, 2024

**President**

Christopher Leich

Charles Tirone, Chair  
Conservation Commission

**Vice President**

Clarissa Rowe

Town of Arlington  
[concomm@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:concomm@town.arlington.ma.us)

**Clerk**

Ann LeRoyer

Dear Mr. Tirone,

**Treasurer**

John F. Page

The Arlington Land Trust strongly endorses the recommendations contained in Scott Horsley's letters of November 13, 2023 and February 9, 2024 regarding the proposed Thorndike Place project, and his presentation to the Commission on February 1, 2024. As Mr. Horsley has explained, it is imperative for groundwater levels at the project site to be measured accurately, and for mounding effects to be correctly modeled, in accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts DEP Stormwater Handbook.

**Directors**

Nellie Aikenhead  
Peter Belknap  
Lolly Bennett  
Nora Frank  
Carol Kowalski  
Bancroft Poor  
Ted Siegan

The haphazard data provided by the Applicant so far do not provide a reason to believe that any adequate stormwater management system can be designed for this project, let alone that the design provided by the Applicant will work. In the absence of an adequate stormwater system, the adjacent wetlands will be adversely affected, and the proposed "conservation parcel" severely damaged, in contravention of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

**Advisory Board**

Cindy Friedman  
Sean Garballey  
Cathy Garnett  
Jay Kaufman  
Kevin Knobloch  
Anne Paulsen  
Dave Rogers

We urge the Commission to require the Applicant to follow the procedures outlined by Mr. Horsley **now**, over the course of this coming March, April, and May, and to closely monitor the Applicant's compliance with these procedures through the involvement of the Town or its agents. An issue so central to the viability of the whole project should not be left to a later date.

Thank you for your continued close examination of this controversial project.

Very truly yours,  
Arlington Land Trust, Inc.

Christopher M. Leich  
President

cc: James Feeney  
Christian Klein  
Claire Ricker  
Michael Cunningham, Esq.  
Sen. Cindy Friedman  
Rep. Dave Rogers  
Rep. Sean Garballey