

## Re: Thorndike Place Comment

Brian Mariano <bmm0623@gmail.com>

Thu 2/8/2024 11:59 AM

To: Ryan Clapp <rclapp@town.arlington.ma.us>

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Thank you Ryan, I was at the last meeting and will continue to make efforts to show up. I have worked in agriculture for the last few years and as I learn more, large scale management of land and forests continues to be very interesting to me. I recently attended a webinar where there were some interesting programs and cost shares available. Not sure if this is something of interest for yall but wanted to pass along if it was... the DCR opened up a new forestry management program called the [Forest Stewardship Program](#). It is brand new, and in conjunction with the NRCS [Conservation Stewardship Program](#), it seems like there are several ways to pay for practices for forest stand management.

On Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 11:00 AM Ryan Clapp <rclapp@town.arlington.ma.us> wrote:

Received, thank you. Your written comments will be uploaded onto the agenda and will be entered into the record. I invite you to make a public comment during during that section of our next hearing on 2/15/24, if you would like.

Ryan Clapp  
Conservation Administrator

Town of Arlington  
Department of Planning and Community Development  
730 Massachusetts Avenue Annex  
Arlington, Ma 02476  
(781)-316-3090

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**From:** Brian Mariano <bmm0623@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:53 AM  
**To:** ConComm <ConComm@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**Subject:** Thorndike Place Comment

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Hello,  
My name is Brian Mariano, I have lived on Melrose Street since 2017. I want to email about the Thorndike Place hearings that have been taking place. I am new to the scene and am learning how much has happened over a long period of time, and while I am bummed to have missed so much, I am energized and opposed to this proposal.

I am aware of the nuance involved in these kinds of things, realizing that I would also likely have opposed the development of much of East Arlington with the lens that every effort should be made to preserve and cultivate these natural resources we have around us. Our ecoregion and what it offers; I believe the wetlands that surround us are the sponge that helps absorb and filter water, roots that build soil, trees and perennials that store carbon and feed and house wildlife. And I think losing or disrupting more of that with further development is a detriment to the future generations of humans and non-humans who call, or would call this area home.

As someone who is ecologically, agriculturally focused, I see so much beauty in the 17 acres there. I run around there often and dream about clearing the overgrown brush and invasive species, managing downed trees as water retention or wildlife habitat, boardwalks and pathways, herons and turtles, cultivating and planting wildflowers and shrubs and berries and all that! However when I see "Private Property" signs and see the neglect in this area, it is saddening because there is so much potential there.

Thank you for reading. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to support this further or things to look for in the future.

Thanks and have a great day,  
Brian Mariano