



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

DAVID M. ROGERS
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
24th MIDDLESEX DISTRICT

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 544
TEL: (617) 722-2637
Dave.Rogers@MAhouse.gov

To the members of the Arlington Conservation Commission,

I write to you today in my capacity as the state representative whose district encompasses the site of the proposed Thorndike Place development. Along with the Arlington Town Meeting, the Select Board, and the overwhelming majority of residents, I have expressed my opposition to this project in the past. I continue to respect and appreciate the work that the commission does daily to protect our environment and residents.

Some alarming recent developments compel me to offer additional testimony. As you well know, two separate studies have found irregularities in water level data submitted by the applicant to the commission. These studies show that the applicant has potentially underestimated groundwater levels during major storm events by using incorrect modeling, sited test pits in the wrong location, and failed to offer data on groundwater during the wettest months of the year. In doing so, the applicant appears to have contravened standard stormwater procedures offered by MADEP. These findings cast doubt on whether the proposed stormwater management system will function as intended, or indeed whether any adequate stormwater management system can be designed.

The site of the proposed development is located within a FEMA flood plain, and this area of town has had issues with flooding. A development with an inadequate stormwater design will be an extremely serious problem for the neighborhood, particularly in light of projected precipitation increases as our climate changes. As such, I respectfully request that the Conservation Commission follow Mr. Horsley's recommendations and require the developer to comply with all procedures established by MADEP and continue to ensure that every effort is made under the law to protect our environment and the community.

Thank you again for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Rogers".

Dave Rogers

State Representative
24th Middlesex District (Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge)