

Dear Sr. or Madam,

I lived on Dorothy Road for 10 years. In 2020 I moved to 101 Varnun Street next to Magnolia. When I was on Dorothy Road we experienced increase in flooding in the last 3-4 years. There was a city drainage in front of the property but that did not seem to work. The basement got flooded several times.

Now, on Varnun St, I see every time it rains how Thorndike and Magnolia field get drenched with water. In the spring and summer the town needs to close the fields every time it rains which interrupts scheduled sports activities. It takes a day or two to dry out and open up.

I'm very concerned about the propose development, although very supportive of building more affordable housing in Arlington, I do not believe that the wetlands are the place to put this project. I think we need to look at our zoning laws and change it to allow more affordable housing in Arlington to bring the diversity and mixed of income that we need to have a thriving community.

However, we cannot solve one problem for the city and create another. Destroying the Mugar Wetlands will destroy an ecosystem that is allowing the City to manage flooding in East Arlington. As environmental scientist have documented well, "**Wetlands prevent flooding** by temporarily storing and slowly releasing stormwater. **Wetlands** also reduce water flow, thus allowing sediments and associated pollutants to settle out." We are so lucky to have this an East Arlington, why would we destroy it?

I hope the City of Arlington decides to protect it wetlands. With climate change we will get more rain and more flooding and if we destroy the natural environment around us that reduces the risk of flooding, we will have a bigger and more expensive problem to solve.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Gonzalez Suarez  
Owner