

## Opposed to Proposed thorndike place

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To:ConComm <ConComm@town.arlington.ma.us>

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Dear Conservation Committee:

Good morning. I am writing to you as a longtime Arlington resident about the proposed Thorndike place. I am opposed to building of Thorndike place on the Mugar Wetland site.

I have lived in Arlington my whole life and now I reside on Mary Street Arlington for over 20 years with my family. The impact on building the proposed Thorndike place would cause major flooding, pollution, safety and traffic concerns through our community and the loss possibly of Thorndike field where all my children played Soccer with the Arlington Soccer club.

The problem with building on mugar wetlands is all the flooding and that will occur in the community. All the homes in the neighborhood or abutters to Thorndike field will be underwater there will be no more soccer for the over 8,000 children in Arlington from grade K-12, our basements will be flooded, cracked driveways, mold, erosion, storm drains cannot hold that about of water and major flooding would occur in the community and much more. Who will pay for this or restore our homes when flooding occurs in our community? An example is a section 8 home they built at the end Burch st right next to the Mugar wetlands it is sinking into the ground (see photos below). This is only a small house can you imagine a condo complex it would sink into the wetlands.

Secondly, the traffic issue from Route 2 to Lake Street to this new proposed site will be a traffic nightmare. I know the town has already done a traffic analysis in December 2014 in regards to safety issues along the beginning of Lake street.

We have already been to the Town about the dangers of traffic and people cutting through from Lake Street to Wilson to Mary Street as well as all the streets abutting Mary Street. No one abides by the signage. We have to tell people to slow down everyday and neighbors call the police because people are racing down Mary Street at 40-50 miles an hour. One child was hit and the Town of Arlington placed signs up no entry between 4pm-7pm Monday through Friday on all streets abutting lake street. A biker was hit and my children were almost hit and I cannot even get out of my own driveway because of cars cutting through from Lake st.

The flow of traffic is so much that the Arlington Police department has on record all the traffic flow from Route 2 to Lake Street to Wilson Street to Mary Street. We have had numerous complaints from neighbors in the community about the cars cutting through our neighborhood as well as Kelywn manor where the governor lives. They issue tickets weekly and warnings to people that don't live in our community that are cutting through our neighborhood. We need to go to the end of Lake Street as a resident between 4pm-7pm to Margaret street to access Mary Street.

The Arlington police are at the end of Mary Street every other week controlling traffic because of people cutting thru from lake to Wilson St to Mary St. People are not following the laws or signage that is posted. It is a major problem in our community and this proposed Thorndike place would make it worse.

So now the builders are proposing Thorndike place with 6 duplex homes and 124 rental apartments. That would be more people accessing the same area and their families and friends or visitors and more than triple the traffic. There is no way this area can handle this amount of traffic. I do not want a parking jam in front of my house everyday.

Plus where is the opening to access this proposed Thorndike place is it going to be entering at Margaret Street or off Route 2? I hope it will not be in front of my house or on Little John Street which is only one street away from my home.

The noise and safety issues with families in the community would be detrimental. I already hear cars racing down our street and/or worrying if my children will get hit. Plus with all the cars the noise and pollution in our community would quadruple. It is so unsafe for families here. What if a car jumps the curb and hits a family or family members or goes into one of our homes? I don't want to take that risk as I care about my community. I think this proposed thorndike place is a liability to the community. Are there any proposed safety or pollution studies from cars being done in our community and the effects due to the proposed building of thorndike place?

In addition, you cannot access any of the streets abutting Lake street as signage has been placed by the Town of Arlington between 4pm-7pm. Now they proposing to change this? Or how are they going to access thorndike place?

It means more traffic, noise, flooding and pollution not to mention all the animals that reside in the Mugar wetlands. Where will the wildlife go? They will either go into neighborhood families backyards or pass away? Plus the rats and rodents that will have no where to go and infest all of our homes. Has the Town of arlington done a study on how building on a wetland would cause rat and rodent infestation in the surrounding community?

There is so much striping of the natural forest and wetlands. I saw a deer the other day walking down my street. This is the third time this has happened. The animals will have no where to go. It is awful. The companies and builders will be stripping the natural wetlands as well as the wildlife that resides there.

Another question that should be asked or no one is telling the community is "What is the benefit of building Thorndike place?" The builders will benefit. We will all suffer and they are making all the money and destroying the Arlington community.

I will be writing to Governor Healey as well as advising my neighbors to do so as well. To see if she is aware of the proposed Thorndike place and let her know how it will affect the community of Kelwyn Manor. No one will benefit from this proposed thorndike place. It will only cause more problems for the Town of Arlington and its residents.

I believe you will be the deciding factor on whether this proposed Thorndike place will be built. I hope you will take into consideration all of the issues that I have raised as an Arlington resident.

Please think of all the families within the Arlington community and how this will impact all of us just so builders can make money on selling and leasing condos. We need to save the only wetlands in the area. It is

so peaceful and when you are at Thorndike, I love seeing trees and land. Let's try and save our community and keep the mugar wetlands.

Just think if this project was in your backyard? The implications of this project would be detrimental to the community we live in. Please vote no on the proposed thorndike place.

Thank you for listening. Please conserve our community

Sincerely,

Jill Broughton  
Mary Street Resident









Sent from my iPhone