

Zoning Board of Appeals
Walpole, MA

To Whom It May Concern:

The following letter will be in bullet point, as I am writing to you during the current ZBA meeting, knowing that I must press send before you officially close the meeting. Please pardon any incomplete thoughts.

1. Walpole and the surrounding towns, near and far, felt the shake of the recent 4.2 earthquake. How will this affect the 55 Summer Street project with two six-story buildings? By the way, apparently with the underground garage, we are now talking about a SEVEN-story building?!
2. There are 312 residential addresses in South Walpole. Omni Development is adding 300 housing units. This "campus" will literally double our density with significant risks to us all, as stated from the many town officials this evening.
3. I have attached a picture below of the traffic today at 2:55pm at the Boyden Elementary School at pick-up time. As you can clearly see, there is a car, not wanting to be in the pick-up lane, heading directly at me with my children in the car. The traffic safety concerns are already high, what will happen when we add hundreds of vehicles and foot traffic?
4. The Fire Department is stating directly that WFD does NOT have the staff to support the two six-story buildings. Four firefighters per building is ridiculously scary! Due to this development and the need to properly staff the WFD, our taxes will rise to support such hires. How is this fair or just?
5. With an addition of about 200 calls to the WPD, I worry for the safety of us all in this area. I can tell you that I have had to call on WPD many times on my little Washington Street Ext, leading in arrests in criminal activity. Chief Carmichael stated there is only one police officer working in this entire area. How can I feel safe knowing that the WPD will not be able to respond to me as quickly with an additional 200 calls for their help in the new development? I can't stress enough how scary this is for my family.
6. Chief Carmichael again stated the dangers of Stadium traffic. You know where I stand on this from previous emails.
7. We will definitely be requesting police detail in our area during Stadium events. How will WPD support this when they are already understaffed?
8. How would children in that area safely stand on that busy street, beside the train running at 45 mph, if the bus does not enter the development?

I am so tired of hearing that David Hale and Omni Development are not responsible for all of our safety concerns. He IS responsible because HIS development is adding all of these safety concerns to our neighborhoods.

We need the ZBA to add numerous conditions to ensure our safety. At the very least, please, PLEASE deny the two six-story buildings. Adding a new neighborhood is welcome, (although up against a speeding train and on possibly contaminated land is not), but adding a "campus" to our quaint and historic community will be absolutely disastrous.

I applaud you all for your patience and hard work during these proceedings.

We are putting our faith, and our future, in your hands. We wish you the best of luck during the decision-making process.

Sincerely,
Becky Litvak
South Walpole Resident

