

Good Evening,

After watching last night's ZBA meeting, I am incredibly disheartened. The people of Walpole are not asking for your pity, but rather your support in doing what is right for the town and, specifically in this case, South Walpole.

The fact that community members have hired our own attorney should speak volumes about how serious we are taking this development. I hope you are as invested as we are in maintaining the character and charm of our town.

The density of this project is overwhelming and has been a concern for neighbors since it was initially introduced. I have been doing my best to watch all meetings, but am very concerned with David Hale's comment that the ZBA has never asked him to downsize the project. I know that I personally have pleaded with the committee to make downsizing the project a priority for a variety of reasons. I hope that his recollection of this is incorrect.

I continue to have grave concerns regarding the location and impact on town water and digging and destroying acres and acres of land next to a known contaminated area.

While Omni has met the request of a second emergency entrance/exit, it is anything but ideal, being just a short way down Summer Street. A project this large should have an access onto a different main road.

As a few people said last night, the sheer number of waivers being requested and granted is black and white evidence of how little respect this developer has for our community. They were, without question, well aware of our town's bylaws, and chose to design a complex that completely disregards them, and we are allowing it. I recognize that 40b projects present different obstacles and challenges, but not fighting for what's right because we are afraid of HAC/ an appeal is not the answer.

I continue to be adamantly opposed to allowing or compromising on the height waiver. 5 story buildings are not acceptable. If our bylaws say 4 stories, the buildings should be no higher than 4 stories. In my opinion, fewer stories would be even more appropriate, but I see the risk of the economic impact. I would rather have Omni appeal to HAC and have Walpole lose than to give into his threats and disregard for the town and neighbors.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns and your continued work in protecting the interests of our community.

Regards,  
Paul and Marissa Falcone