



WALPOLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

• **TOWN OF WALPOLE** •
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS



John F. Carmichael Jr.
Chief of Police

Date: 2/28/2020

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To: Amy L. Messier, Town of Walpole Zoning & Conservation

From: Chief John Carmichael, Walpole Police Department

Ref: Summer Street 40B Project Comments

Amy,

The following comments are provided by the Walpole Police Department in regards to the Summer Street 40B Project. Let me know if there are any questions.

1. The Walpole Police Department responds to all public safety calls for service, and emergencies including all calls requiring fire, EMS, police & utility service emergencies. Other complexes of this size create substantial use of each of these resources and increases call volume. The sector car assigned to sector 2 covers a large geographic area. There is no doubt that this project and other slated projects will require additional police resources.
2. The entrance/exit to the complex is extremely close to the train tracks. The location of the entrance/exit, intersects with Summer Street, directly adjacent to the MBTA Foxboro Train pilot program (at grade crossing) set to start and likely to be permanent. This will be a high-speed train crossing with functioning street gates, which will cause traffic to stop and back up at the gates well past the entrance/exit and likely cause a confusing traffic pattern. The entrance/exit currently on plans should be re-evaluated.
3. This complex is adjacent to the MBTA tracks where trains will be traveling through at 45-60mph. With the amount of units and number of young children in the complex and playing in the area, the complex would need significant safeguards to protect children and provide barriers between the complex and trains
4. Depending on number of kids, and taking into consideration the train issue, even with the gates and crossings, it may be suggested that a crossing guard be posted at the crossing.
5. Summer Street has inadequate street lighting.
6. Summer Street infrastructure including sidewalk connections to Delapa Circle area not adequate. Roadway is hilly, windy, and can be unsafe crossing the street or for vehicular travel. More sidewalks and improved signage and infrastructure needed.

7. Onsite management for public safety emergencies? Access to buildings for police emergencies. Should have police lock box.
8. Surveillance camera system (such as at Alta Easterly Apartments) are vital for onsite public safety matters.
9. Location of apartments proximate to stadium adds unique issues of traffic volume in South Walpole, pedestrian traffic, and parking violations effecting public safety resources.
10. High visibility crosswalks signs and crosswalk upgrades should be installed in South Walpole square to make for safer pedestrian traffic to schools and route 1 amenities. We would ask for 2 LED crosswalk lights (same as the others in town) to be installed by this project, one at the Water/ Summer crossing and another at Water/Washington Street.
11. The Walpole Police Department would suggest that the projects traffic engineering look into doing a traffic study and meet with Mass DOT to reduce the speed limit on Washington Street. We would also suggest continuing the sidewalk all the way to the South Walpole square on the same side as the project. The 40mph speed limit just north of Boyden School should likely be reduced to 35mph.

Respectfully submitted,



John F. Carmichael
Chief of Police
Walpole Police Department