

**Letter to Planning Board and to Michael Behrendt, Town
Planner, Durham. Copy: Karen Edwards.**

June 7, 2016

**Dear Planning Board and Town Planner(Michael Behrendt),
Town of Durham, NH.**

After reading the revised Mill Plaza redevelopment Plan submitted by Colonial Durham, we find that it is unacceptable. Many features of the Revised Plan omit earlier efforts to create a Durham Village Center, and seem to have ignored the concerns of Durham residents that Oppose dense student housing, wherever it is located, in the Plaza, To provide a green buffer in an appropriate location, as well as the Regulations which limit the height of such buildings to three stories.

In addition, the so-called “revised plan” does not address the problem of Sufficient parking for customers of the Plaza businesses, and, indeed will, if the student housing proposal is instituted, exacerbate the parking shortage For residents of elderly housing as well as for business customers.

At the same time, we note that the pictures on the earlier Plans which support the Durham Village Center concept, remain on record in Colonial Durham’s website.

As elderly residents just up Mill Road, we find the implications of this revised Plan raise grave doubts about the viability of a future Mill Road Plaza and of a desirable spirit of a multi-generational approach to living near Durham’s center and to sustaining a spirit of community.

We urge you, the Planning Board, to reject this revised Plan. The future of the Mill Road Plaza will profoundly influence Durham’s future as a viable community where different generations can co-exist and flourish.

**Sincerely, Doug and Katie Wheeler
27 Mill Road, Durham NH 03824-3006**