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Town of Durham

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Planning, Assessing  
and Zoning

To the members of the planning board:

After viewing the current site plan of the Mill Plaza project, I am writing to express my concern. I feel that there are several problems with the plan.

The first is the location of the student housing. One of the major concessions of the lawsuit settlement was that the majority of the apartments would be located at the rear of the property. The intent was to decrease the impact on abutters living in the Faculty Neighborhood. Placing building B in the front of the property, close to College Brook, is not consistent with this intent.

Another potential problem is parking. The project increases the amount of commercial space, but decreases existing parking spots. One of the major attractions of the Mill Plaza to residents is that it provides easy access. Making it more difficult to park increases the likelihood that residents will shop elsewhere.

Finally, there is a lack of green space that draws people to spend time downtown. Helping provide these spaces greatly improves the chances of community support of local businesses.

Thank you for listening.

Al Howland  
32 Ffrost Dr., Durham.