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**To:** [Karen Edwards](#); [Rick Taintor](#)  
**Cc:** [sallyneedell@gmail.com](mailto:sallyneedell@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Comments about plaza to Conservation Commission  
**Date:** Monday, November 23, 2020 3:34:26 PM

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Dear members of the Durham Conservation Commission,

Thank you for your hard work on behalf of all of us Durham residents. We appreciate your efforts – our family is grateful, as we value very highly the beauty of our town, and its commitment to protect our community's natural resources. We live in a beautiful place that connects to nature, and this is a big part of why Durham is such an amazing town.

We want to ask you to keep protecting our natural resources as you review the current proposal to develop the Durham Plaza. We are very much looking forward to a newly developed plaza, one that might perhaps be a renewed focal point for our community. But, this must be accomplished in parallel with conservation and resource management, not somehow circumventing these. The current proposal asks the town to allow our resources to be squandered just so that one particular vision of development would be allowed to proceed. Please do not recommend the acceptance of this idea. There are plenty of imaginative ways that the Plaza can be developed, and that it can be financially successful. We don't have to just accept the current proposal. Instead, it would be better if the developer thought hard about how to move forward in a way that is (1) responsible to our natural resources and at the same time (2) brings value to our community and (3) to the developer's financial interests. There are many possible solutions that meet these three requirements. The one that's being proposed now would probably meet only one (the developer's financial interests). But the DCC's remit is to protect our natural resources, and we ask you to do so.

Thanks you,  
Andrew and Jennifer Kun  
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