

From: [Michael Behrendt](#)
Subject: Main Street #19 - email from Diane Freedman - Stop Building a Spaceship to Mars and Just Plant Some Damn Trees
Date: Monday, December 23, 2019 12:00:10 PM

To the Planning Board,
Please see the email from Diane Freedman below.

Michael Behrendt

Durham Town Planner
Town of Durham
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-8064
www.ci.durham.nh.us

From: "Freedman, Diane" <Diane.Freedman@unh.edu>
Date: Sunday, November 24, 2019 at 3:17 PM
To: Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>
Subject: Stop Building a Spaceship to Mars and Just Plant Some Damn Trees

Here is my response to the current proposal to cut the forest in the faculty neighborhood to add parking!

When it comes to climate change research, most studies bear bad news regarding the looming, very real threat of a warming planet and the resulting devastation that it will bring upon the Earth. But a new study, out Thursday in the journal Science, offers a sliver of hope for the world: A group of researchers [...] <https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2019/07/stop-building-a-space-ship-to-mars-and-just-plant-some-damn-trees/>

Let me just add, once again, that the Town of Durham provisions for exceptions to zoning laws can be abridged clearly specify that exceptions are NOT to be made when a proposed project or change leads to more noise, traffic, and other deleterious effects on the status quo. There is no legal or moral mandate

or sensible support for redeveloping the Mill Plaza to accommodate a) student or other housing of any kind b) parking for imagined new tenants or c) more parking in general, especially not on wetlands or when it creates a situation in conflict with Town statements on climate change (and its prevention), on open space, on social capital, on public safety, health, happiness.

Noise pollution, light pollution, traffic congestion (with negative impact on air, moods, safety), threats to egress or ingress in an emergency, air pollution, water pollution—these are to be avoided AT ALL COSTS.

I do not support current proposals related to the Mill Plaza AND its surroundings.

Maintain what natural lands, open spaces, and community recreation, peace, and quiet we have.

Diane P. Freedman