

John Mince
23 Faculty Road
Durham, NH 03824
jmince6@outlook.com

Town Planning Board
Town of Durham, NH
May 5, 2022

Dear Members of the Planning Board,

I write you a second letter today regarding the proposed Parking Lot in the Church Hill area.

My great concern is that in all the meetings, and all the requests made by the Board and by the residents and neighbors who would be most impacted by the building of the parking lot, there has not been a single well done image showing us what the visual impact would be of such a project.

For a project which will wipe out a valuable urban forest, introduce a heat sink with a black impervious surface, and introduce a massive mountain of fill, the need for a professionally done image is of maximum importance.

The one image offered several meetings ago was done with such little skill that it left up all the current forest trees in the image, when clearly these trees will be completely gone.

I have only request. Please demand a well constructed image of what that proposed building project would look like when completed, when viewed not from the Main Street vantage point, but from the end of Chesley Drive. I live on Faculty Road, and have walked to the end of Chesley Drive many times to try to ascertain the visual impact the project will have on the three immediate neighbors. In a word, it will be awful. It is hard to imagine another project that could result in such a terrible viewscape.

We need only attend to the well written Conditional Use criteria to see that any project must meet those criteria before getting approval from the Planning Board. There simply is no way that the proposal could pass that test. It fails on multiple accounts to meet the criteria.

Please ask yourself if you would move your family to any of the three neighbors' houses at the end of Chesley Drive if the current proposal were allowed? I know I would not, and doubt others would. That criteria alone shows how far this proposal goes over the line. It fails conditional use criteria and in multiple ways.

Please insist on a well done rendering that is realistic. It needs to show the 1500 cubic yard mountain without a single tree, and what that would look like to our neighbors at the end of Chesley Drive.

Thank you for consideration of these concerns.

Sincerely,
John Mince

