

January 23, 2021

To: All Boards and Committees of the Town of Boxborough
Planning Board, Building Committee, Select Board, Board of Health, Traffic Safety
Committee, Well-Being Committee, Conservation Commission

From: Liz Nichols and Elaine and Charles Olmstead
Residents of Tisbury Meadows Condominium Association

Re: Proposed Public Safety Facility on 72 Stow Rd

We are responding to the Boxborough Building Committee's proposal that a new public safety facility be constructed at 72 Stow Rd.

We have several areas of concern as residents who live near the proposed site and as tax payers in the Town of Boxborough. We understand that some of these concerns will be addressed in the upcoming FAQ sheet and have been decided in previous town meetings. We just want to make sure we understand all the variables involved.

I – Why the 72 Stow Rd location?

- What are the benefits of this site?
- The public safety buildings should be more visible to the community and not on a side street in close proximity to senior housing
 - What other sites have been considered and why have they been rejected?
 - Have other options been explored? Use of the abandoned DPW site for some of the needs, ie storage. Expanding on the current site, ie. building a second story or further out on the property, connecting the fire and police stations.

II – Impact on the Residents of Stow Rd

- **Noise level** during construction and the ensuing 24 hour operation of fire and police.
- Residents of Tisbury Meadows and Sherriff Meadow have endured **disruptive construction** of the ENCLAVE since 2019 which will continue for another 2-3 years.
- As the ENCLAVE completes 50 units there will be a significant **increase in traffic**, probably 100 plus cars per day, plus service and delivery trucks, all exiting onto Stow Rd
- There is likely to be more **pedestrian and bicycling traffic** on Stow Rd as the Enclave residents move in.
- The certain increase in vehicular and pedestrian traffic along with police and fire department vehicles entering and exiting Stow Rd pose a safety risk to all. It is questionable that this narrow road can accommodate all of this traffic safely.
- When will there be a study of traffic safety and by whom?

III. – Tax consequences and property values.

- What is the increase in the mill rate likely to be to fund this public safety building construction and ongoing operation costs.
- If property values decrease as a result of proximity to the public safety building, will our property taxes be adjusted accordingly. This could be especially important if a resident wants to sell during a downturn in the housing market.

IV – Environmental Impact

Loss of habitat for wildlife and plants. Owls, fox, songbirds and deer live there.
Air, water, soil, noise and light pollution on and near the site
Decrease in trees as a wind buffer.