

Jane Howard
17 Damon Street
Ipswich, MA 01938

January 25, 2022

Ms. Carolyn Britt, Chair
Planning Board
Town of Ipswich
25 Green St.
Ipswich, MA 01938

Dear Chair Britt and Members of the Planning Board

My name is Jane Howard and I live at XX Damon Street in Ipswich. I am a lifelong resident of Ipswich and want to express my concerns regarding the proposed commercial development of 55 Waldingfield Road, the Bird Estate, with specific reference to traffic impacts.

I have traveled Waldingfield Road for my entire life and have treasured the beauty and character of the road. We designated the road as a Scenic Road for very good reasons back in 1974 and those reasons continue to be valid today. This farm road has character, beauty, and a deep history, all of which continue to make Ipswich a wonderful place to live.

The proposed development threatens the Ipswich community with increased daily traffic flow well beyond the current levels. We all walk, ride, and otherwise enjoy the tranquility of this wonderful location. Indeed the road itself anchors the entire community. Increased daily traffic flow will likely lead to safety issues for all users and it would be a tragedy if there were a serious accident. As a lifetime Ipswich taxpayer I understand the value of additional taxes paid to Ipswich by a corporation. In this case it seems to me the additional tax revenue is negatively offset by the possible safety threats with increased traffic flow. We have had two recent car-cyclists deaths in Ipswich, we don't need any more.

The proposed development doesn't need to occur. An attractive alternative to the Ora Inc. commercial plans exists as the Friends of Waldingfield have expressed. I urge you to deny the special permit application.

Sincerely

Jane Howard

