

## Petition to Save Waldingfield

55 Waldingfield and its road hold a great deal of history dating back nearly 400 years, and it is deeply embedded in the fiber of our community. The property is now at risk of becoming a corporate complex, so will you please consider the following alarming, detrimental impacts to the community:

- the proposed corporate office complex irrevocably threatens to degrade the character of this designated Scenic Road;
- the agrarian nature of the area, which is zoned as rural residential, is not compatible with a large office development;
- the traffic impacts are identified as “significant” and not amenable to reasonable mitigation;
- the increased traffic volume poses additional safety risks to non-vehicular users of the Road;
- a four-phase development is proposed, and applicant refuses to commit to limiting expansion;
- the development is located on the banks of the endangered Ipswich River and could further harm it;
- the applicant refuses to commit to a Conservation Restriction on an important viewshed area;
- there is an absence of planning scenarios to understand best to worst case set of conditions and associated impact mitigation plans;
- nothing in the Great Estates Preservation Bylaw remotely suggests that its intent was to protect historic, great estates at the expense of historic scenic roads;
- the Planning Board is responsible for protecting the zoning districts and must determine that the benefits to the neighborhood exceed the zoning protections to approve the permit – this is clearly not the case.

We, the undersigned, are concerned Ipswich citizens who urge our Planning Board Members and Town Leaders to act now to **deny** Ora, Inc. approval of their proposed development. We are grateful for your consideration and time

Total 536	Autumn Armano	Bryn Barror
Anonymous (78)	Craig Arvo	Jami Barry
Morgan Aggi	John Arvo	Jillian Bemis
Sara Allen	MH Avenmarg	Isaac Bergner
Alana Anthony	Isabel Bacon & Chase Delano	Mel Berube
Alice Anthony	Deirdre Bamford & Michael Mulkern	Sarah Bildlo
Michael Anthony		C. Bishop
Michael Anthony, Jr.	John Baran	Tim Blasko
Michelle Anthony	Michelle Baran	Karen Blessington
Annalise Arant	Miranda Baran	Amy Farr Borgman
Gail Arant	Ian Barg	Torii Bottomley
Kaetlyn Arant	Linda Barg	Kim Brantley
	Dr. Corine Barone	Lydia Brendel

Joan Bresnahan	Chris Crockett	Michael DiFrancesco
Marge & Bob Brown	Ober Crocket	Joseph Dinan
Daniel Buletza	Anya Cromie	Elias Donovan
Dr. Anne Burkhardt, PhD	Heidi Crosby	Chloe Doonan
Ruth Burrough	Oliver Cullem	Cara Doran
Henry Cabot	Sienna Cullem	Sue Jennings Douglas
Sam Cabot	Peter Cushing	John N. Downes
Shannon & Jim Cabot	Aidan Dalton	Andrea Drown
Chris Calabro	Deborah Dalton	Irene & Dan Duclow
Peter Campot	John Dalton	Erica Duda
Mary Callahan	Alexandra Dane	Robert Craig Dumont, Jr.
Madeline Chesley	Benjamin Dane	Jo-Ann Duncan
Patricia & John Chisholm	Ben Darisse	Riley Duncan
Laura Church	Scott Davis	David Dunstan
Hester Clapp	Nancy Dawson	Joshua Duran
Megan Cleery	Jay Dawson	Amaya Duvall
Marnie Clippinger & Sheffield van Buren	Emma Dawson	Dale Eddy
Jill Cloonan	Abby Dawson	Gibbs Eddy
Elizabeth Z. & Richard B. Coakley	Faith DeBoer	Jennifer & Tom Eddy
Dr. Michael Cognata	Pierce Deboer	Tamsin Venn & David Eden
Julian Colville	Camille Devoe	Dawn Edwards
Derek Cooper	Susan Dick	Judy & Michael Eldredge
	Lindsay Diehl	Whit Ellis

Ana Eng	Seamus Gallagher	Karen Hammond
Deborah Logan & Mark Evans	Samantha Gallant	Olivia Hammond
Grace Evans	Michelle Gallapillo	Adriana Hardy
Maeve Fabrizio	Michelle Galliiveau	Tizzy & Whitney Hatch
Amy & James Fanning	Bre & Isaac Garcia-Dale	John Healy
Lydia Fanning	Jarryd Gill	Moira Healey
Adam Farris	Susan Glessner	Steve Heaphy
Madeleine Fawcett & Adam Atenasio	Jo-Ann Gorrell	Cate Hermann
Polly Fawcett	Linda & Raymon Gosselin	Anne Hezzey
David Feldman	Bradán Graney	Wendy & Howard Hodgson
Roberta Ferreira	Nikos Gray	Potter Hodgson
Colby Filosa	Vanessa Gray	Tom Hogan
Desiree Finch	Helen Greene	Jane Howard
Jason Finkst	Phyllis & Michael Greene	Patrick Howard
Diane & Vic Fishbach	Caroline & Tom Gregory	Beth & Bruce Howell
Ann Fitzgerald	Cassius Grenot	Kurt Martin Huffnagle
Ted Flaherty	Holly Grotnik	Sara Hughes
Georgia & David Flood	Jacek Grotnik	Janine Jacques
Jack Forrester	Augie Grotnik	Gabila Jaisvilaite
Zachary Fouser	Grace Grotnik	Melissa Jaworski
Sheldon Frisch	Marlene & David Groves	Barbara Jensen
Betsy Frost	Ashlee & Ben Gunn	Linzee Jerrett
	Amanda Markos & James Hall	Adriana Jimenez

Ingrid Johnson	Cathy Larkin	James Matteson
Patricia Johnstone	Tom Larson	Cate McDaly
Priscilla Jones	Matthew Lewis	Michael McDonough
Annabel Judy	Mary Milgrom & John Lichten	Daniel McGrath
Courtney & Mark Kagan	Erik Lindahl	Kathryn McQuaid
Tracy Kali	Donald Little, Jr.	Carlos Medieros
Mickey Karpa	Holly Little	Mary Merry
Elias Keach	Judy Little	McKenzie Meserve
Renaud Keach	Diane Locotos	Nancy Michno
Pamela & Tad Keach	Laurie Lowe	Darla Miner
Zephen Keach	Greg Lowe	Catherine Mitchell & Bryan Townsend
JoAnne Kelleher	Victoria Lynn	Lenzie Mitchell
Jennifer Kelly	Susanne Macdonald	Lili Mitchell
Glenn Kennedy	Robin MacLeod	Joyce Mitchell
Jenn Kentros	Adriana & Matt Mollo	Adriana Moll
Gen Kimball	Katherine L. Mann	Matt Mollo
Joyce & John Kippin	Mary Mann	Dorothy Kerper Monnelly
Joshua Kline	Nick Manos	Edward Monnelly
Skylar Kline	William D. Markiewicz	Marina & Paul Mooradian
Liz Koch	Dana Markos	William Moriarty
Faye Kohos	Daniel Markos	Katelyn Moseley
Hilary & Seth Krause	Prudy Markos	Skyler Moseley
Stephanie & David Lane	Katie Martinez	Cassandra Moses

Nancy Mucci	Kurian Penlund	Ted Raymond
Deirdre Bamford & Michael Mulkern	Emma Perakis	Barbara Recupero
Luke Murdoch	Jean Peralta	Charlene Regan
Nicole Murdoc	Morgan Petitpas	Jessie & Andrew Reid
Jessica Murphy	Aina Pfeifer	Thomas J. Reilly
Noelle Nikas	Jeff Pickul	Denis Robitaille
Kerrin Nixon	Marlene Pippins	Katie Rokes
Dr. Helen O. Noble	Arabella Plum	Meaghan Rondeau
Jack Norris	Sharon Poor	James Ross
Olivia Novello	Peter Poor	Patricia Roworth
Maureen O'Brien	Nancy Popp	Julia Rowse
Wyatt O'Brien	Kim Porter	Marley & Will Safrin
Isabelle O'Connor	Jeremy Powers	Dana Salvucci
Michelle & Peter O'Connor	Ann & Bob Pulver	Alexandra Sanidas
Elizabeth O'Neil	Emily Putur	Paula & Ronald Sawyer
Jack Obben	Dennis J. Quinn	Peggy & Michael Schrage
Jordyn Palmer	Deirdre Quirk	Mary Scott
Lauren Papalia	Jim Rataj	Dr. Fern Selesnick
Dr. Bryan Parrott	Kali Rataj	Zara Shannon
Adam Parrot	Kim Rataj	Norma Shaw
Tami Paumier	Lili Rataj	Jocelyn Sheahan
Rebecca Pearson	Ben Raymond	Victoria Siegal
	Macy Raymond & Scott Glosserman	Aleks Siegal

Julia Siegert	Katherine Vellante	Melanie Watt
Suzanne Kelsey & Ken Siegert	John Verani	Sandy Wetherall
Noel Siegert	Pege Verani	Carlene White
Connor Silva	Charlize Vermaak	Jack Whittier
Jeff Silva	Chris Villani	Jennifer Wills
Rowan Silva	Carra & Danny Wall	Angela Winthrop
Kara Simeonov	Anne Ward	Frederic & Susan Winthrop
Amanda Smith	Charlotte Ward	Jonathan Winthrop
McKenzie Smith	James S. Ward III	Miranda Winthrop-Ellis
Crocker Snow	Owen Ward	Nancy Woodworth
Paula Stangenberg	Penny & Seth Ward	Deb Wright
Brian Stelline	Sophie Ward	Henry Wright
Doug Stewart	Alana Warren	Lexi Wright
Lily Stewart	Alice Warren	Staci Zarimba
Alison Sullivan	Ava Warren	Kathryn Zelkowitz
Carly Sullivan	Bo Warren	
Kara Sullivan	Jake Warren	
Kevin Swenson	Julie Warren	
Cathy Taylor	Michael Warren	
Elaine & Jim Twitchell	Michael Warren, Jr.	
Christopher Vellante	Rob Warren	
Colin Vellante	Glenna Waterman	
Jenny Vellante	Kellen Waters	

## **Comments from Petitioners - 55 Waldingfield**

Harold B.:

I've enjoyed this area most of my life. This road and its seamless connection to Appleton Farms is an essential part of the character and natural beauty of the area. It should not be developed any further, let alone for corporate profits.

Kim T.:

With trucks, commuters and construction equipment along with horse trailers and the occasional speeder, a development at Waldingfield would create numerous catastrophic accidents. The town would be setting itself up for lawsuits. The town water system can't handle development either.

Edie F.:

I'm not an Ipswich or Hamilton resident, but I spend a lot of time in the area around Waldingfield, and have ridden horses there for years. It would be a terrible thing for the estate to become a corporate zone. Awful. Please let me know what I can do to help (I am a resident of West Gloucester).

Yetti F.:

Essex County needs to preserve green space for people and animals alike. If Covid taught us anything, it was how important publicly accessible land is for our quality of life.

Sue D.:

I grew up in Hamilton and now live in Ipswich. Waldingfield is a special road and Appleton Farms coupled together are bucolic and priceless. A corporation should not be allowed to build on this pastoral land. This is not good stewardship for such a special historic and scenic corner of New England.

Carra W.:

Beautiful properties like this are disappearing at an alarming rate! Please save Waldingfield!

Tyler S.:

My wife and I had the pleasure of being invited to the Waldingfield Estate this spring. We were amazed at its beauty from the marvelous landscape to the beautiful home itself. I am an architect by profession and love exploring and seeing structures with historical value (if only walls could talk). Although commonly seen throughout New England, estates like this are in desperate need of being preserved and kept as original as possible without disturbing its historical appearance. It would be a travesty if this private home became a business complex. I hope my words and others help save this beautiful estate. Thank you!

Glenna W.:

Ipswich does not need nor want another corporation here. That area is crucial to our green space and Ora's plans would ruin the peace and serenity of that part of Ipswich.

Kristen V.:

To lose Waldingfield would be an absolute tragedy. Offices can be built somewhere else. No need to destroy a place so scenic, peaceful, and historical.

Kolleen T.:

We are regular visitors to the Essex/Ipswich area and members of The Trustees. The agricultural beauty of the north shore is diminishing, and this road and property are key to maintaining the area and the state parks around it. I commend the residents for taking up this fight, and I fully support maintaining this property and the area for generations to come.

Mary B.:

Waldingfield is a bucolic country road that should never have excess traffic. It would ruin that area. I drive it frequently and there are spots that barely allow two cars to pass, never mind if there is a cyclist, jogger or horse as well. I also believe we should preserve as much open and public space as possible. Our town doesn't seem to have that as a priority.

Vanessa S.:

Let's preserve this beautiful piece of land for years to come!!

Alison T.:

I'm a former resident of Ipswich and now in Wenham. This land and space is historic and irreplaceable. It must be preserved above all else.

Marie C.:

I grew up horseback riding on this historical and beautiful property. It is an important landmark and a beautiful, natural space that should be conserved.

Beth P.:

It is extremely important to preserve a historic scenic byway and to not add hundreds of cars daily to this rural road.

Dodie J.:

As a lifelong student of histories distant past and recent, interested in historic preservation, community development, entrepreneurship as the best informants for economic development - the proposed land use for this beautiful and important property is nothing less than a travesty. HOW ON EARTH did this proposal get out of the earliest committee to this point of serious consideration?! (I am a resident of Kansas City, Missouri; the form would not allow this entry, it would not allow me to submit my form and you might have a lurking programming problem that prevents collecting interested parties' support.)

Tansey H.:

This is one of the most charming, most perfect, most inspirational pieces of property on the North Shore. It harkens back to a time when more of the country was unspoiled and undeveloped. Not all growth is progress and not all progress is needed. If we've seen one thing in the course of the last two and a half years it is the need for spaces like this: to rest one's eyes and mind, to provide a space for wildlife, and to act as a natural buffer against the encroaching chokehold of global warming. To develop this wondrous natural gift would be an insult to those who enjoy it now and those who will enjoy it in the future. I can think of fewer obvious ways to spit in the face of the North Shore community - which so values its history and its wild spaces - than to develop this breathtaking property.

Tori B.:

The town has proven that it cannot protect and enforce Great Estate Bylaws. This results in a highly profitable business endeavor at the cost of the health, safety, welfare, historical preservation, and conservation elements that are critical to the culture and future of our town.



Jane C.:

I lived in Boston for 15 years and frequented the Ipswich area to enjoy this open space of nature. If it is zoned as rural residential, please do not allow corporate office development that would be in a rural residential area with precious open space for outdoor scenic recreation and enjoyment by the general public.

Wrick M.:

Waldingfield is a cornerstone of the historic, bucolic road and area it occupies. As a lifelong visitor to Ipswich, it is always a treasure to traverse that area and enjoy that special Ipswich equine legacy.

Lili M.:

It's a road I traveled to and from on during High School and enjoyed running on during XC season. Ipswich is a special place and Waldingfield should be preserved and reserved for residential use.

Ted F.:

Ipswich is a beautiful old New England town. I love it. Waldingfield Road is one of the Town's treasures. You can't help but be struck by its beauty and serenity. These sorts of areas around town are slowly being taken away and replaced with homes/businesses in the name of making money NOT beautifying our gorgeous town. It is an obvious money grab for a few and forever taking away some of the magic of Ipswich.

Ingrid J.:

Waldingfield Road already has more than enough traffic, especially since it is a particularly narrow and tricky road to negotiate.

Carolyn W.:

Once a Great Estate loses its public access to all of its trails, scenic vistas, habitat for wildlife, and lacks conservation restrictions, then it will cease being Great. It will then become "too bad not enough was done to save this crown jewel of a once treasured Great Estate". I now live in Essex, but I am a second generation of Polish Immigrants who was born and raised in Ipswich and lived on Lakemans Lane where for 25+ years. The trails of Appleton Farms and Waldingfield were my playgrounds as a child and continued to be some of my most favorite properties throughout my adult life.

Lydia F.:

I live around the corner from Waldingfield Road and walk, bike, run, or drive down it almost every day. I want to preserve this beautiful property and scenic road!

Elizabeth S.:

It's a beautiful property that should be preserved. I enjoy it when visiting friends.

Adam F.:

Ipswich is already at its breaking point in terms of population and people coming in and out of the town. It's history and nature makes it special, this proposed idea goes against everything Ipswich and it's citizens have stood for for nearly 400 years.

Jeremy P.:

Nobody needs a new office building, work from home! Find an existing office building come on.

Peter C.:

Waldingfield is contiguous to the original Appleton estate that has been preserved. Waldingfield is just as important and is an important part of the community and the landscape to lose this parcel forever would be tragic.

Elizabeth B.:

The Waldingfield property is historic to Ipswich. We understand that change happens in a town but what about preserving the history of our coastal town. Ipswich is a rural town with a close knit community, not an industrial park that people commute to. I would like to add that Waldingfield Rd is a country road meant for few cars. The road has no yellow or white lines, it's barely wide enough for two cars and the speed limit is 25mph. In addition to the environmental impacts to the river from the construction we would be increasing the risk of road runoff from the increase of traffic on this road which is abutting many farms with livestock (Appleton, etc). Waldingfield was never intended to be an industrial center in the rural town of Ipswich. I urge town officials to protect what's left of the towns history for future generations.

Henry W.:

Why ruin such a beautiful area and not just build it in a less important space.

Devon P.:

I grew up in Ipswich and am still in the area and this would be a terrible spot for a corporate office.

Mariana F.:

We are having a water shortage. Adding more businesses and houses will only make it worse.

Madison O.:

I practically grew up on Waldingfield Road, biking from my home to my childhood best friend's house and around Appleton. It would be a huge loss to future families who want a quiet and safe place to live.

William C.:

Corporate development does not belong there.

Maia B.:

Protect the ecology of the Ipswich River!

Brooke F.:

Currently living in Beverly, but grew up in Ipswich. I would hate to see another big building site go up and take away/change what makes Ipswich so great.

Lydia B.:

Stop sacrificing nature for industry!

Elizabeth C.:

We need to preserve the nature of our region. It is developed enough. Enough is enough. This is another story about the community suffering, sacrificing and losing out for corporate gain and greed.

Hanna H.:

I think that the environmental strain and long lasting irreversible impact would be devastating to the Ipswich eco system and water table. Also, not that this is a legitimate reason to stop construction, but perhaps a relatable feeling. It's very sad to see all of the woods/open fields I used to drive by as a child turn into these cookie cutter houses that I personally believe to be an eye sore. I agree with the notion that Ipswich has a serious lack of affordable housing, but obviously there isn't much you can do without new construction. That's why I'm signing this petition. This is something that I can do something about. We do not need this.