

April 22, 2022

Planning Board  
Town of Ipswich  
25 Green Street  
Ipswich, MA 01938

Dear Members of the Planning Board:

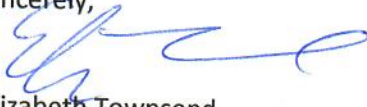
As a long-time resident of Ipswich and a frequent traveler along the Waldingfield Byway, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed development at 55 Waldingfield Road. It is not possible to reconcile the national scenic byway with the proposed traffic that would accompany the property's development as a corporate headquarters.

The proposed development takes away the reasonable expectation of safety for all users of the road (vehicular and non-vehicular). It has already been pointed out that the proposed traffic calming measures would detract significantly from the extraordinary, scenic nature of the road. I add that speed bumps or tables do not feel particularly safe when traversed on a bicycle, nor do they make the road wider to allow a safe distance from overtaking vehicles.

Economics are also a concern. The increased demand on public safety services given the nature of the road will drive higher costs for residents. Water usage will increase. Since businesses are not currently subject to the same water restrictions as residents, a corporate headquarters, especially one which may include a spa or wellness center, will add a significant burden. This will detract from the current quality of life in Ipswich.

The damage to our community that would be caused by the loss of this extraordinary scenic road and the stresses caused by unrestricted water use and increased public safety needs outweigh the possible benefits of such a development. And they can not be reversed. I respectfully ask that you do not grant the special permit required for this business development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Townsend', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Elizabeth Townsend  
Ipswich, MA