

Andrea Bates

From: Ethan Parsons
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 11:59 AM
To: Andrea Bates
Subject: FW: Please vote no on Ora project

From: Julian Colville <colvillejulian@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 11:57 AM
To: Ethan Parsons <ethanp@ipswichma.gov>
Subject: Please vote no on Ora project

Hi Ethan,

I'm writing to urge the Planning Board to vote against granting a special permit to Ora, Inc.

An overwhelming number of residents have written letters like this one, put up yard signs, signed a petition, and spent their time speaking at Board meetings despite having no personal stake in the project (not to mention those like me who have come to meetings hoping to speak but were not given time to do so). It is clear that the people of Ipswich do not want Ora in our town. That should be reason enough to vote against the project.

Even if the will of the people weren't as plainly evident as it is, there are a multitude of reasons to vote no. Others have elucidated them better than I could. Nevertheless, I'd like to remind the Board of a few points.

- As a runner who frequently traverses Waldingfield Rd., Prof. Yaro's testimony about the traffic impacts this corporate campus would cause are terrifying to me, and because Ora has a self-evident incentive to downplay and minimize these impacts, I trust Yaro's figures over Ora's.
- As Foley Hoag has stated repeatedly, it is unreasonable to consider crawlspace to count towards gross floor area, and it is unreasonable to consider Ora's plans for construction near the gatehouse not to violate the setback. Ora hopes the Board will ignore these issues, but if the Board does so, it will not be Ora paying the Town's legal bills. I would consider it a great shame for my tax dollars to be spent unsuccessfully defending this project in court.
- Most distressingly, everything I have witnessed has made it clear to me that Ora is an untrustworthy and unscrupulous corporation. They have not shown themselves to be straight shooters, or to have the Town's interests at heart. I call on the Board to ask themselves if Ora can be counted on to keep their promises, to abide by the conditions the Board sets forth. *This is crucial because the Board has previously stated that it would be the neighbors' responsibility to ensure that Ora doesn't violate any terms. Therefore, I can only conclude that the board believes (and I concur) that the Town does not have the capacity to enforce the conditions as set forth. As a result, the Board must take Ora's word for it. Can the Board count on that?*

I'm certain that all members of the Board love this town just as much as I do. I'm also certain that they know what the right and just decision is on this matter. I ask the Board simply to vote their consciences.

I thank you, Planning Department staff, and members of the board for the countless hours spent working on this project, and listening to the concerns of residents like myself.

All my best,

Julian Colville
34 Linebrook Rd.
Ipswich