

Deborah Crocker
23 High Street
Topsfield, MA 01983

February 16, 2023

Robert Moriarty
Zoning Board of
Appeals
8 West Common St.
Topsfield, MA 01983

Dear Mr. Moriarty:

As a lifelong resident of Topsfield (44 years of that residing at 23 High Street), I strenuously object to the Emerson Homes project's proposed driveway location on High Street (Rt. 97).

During my time here, I have watched traffic volume on Rt. 97- a vital regional passage between Rt. 95 and Rt. 1 - steadily increase, most dramatically in the past decade. Until recently, the only time vehicles backed up from the intersection at High Street and Main Street to my property was during the Topsfield Fair. It now regularly happens during morning and evening commutes, sometimes all the way to Rt. 1. Very high traffic counts coming into our intersection from High St., Rt. 97 and Main St., which have been shared with the town by our Police Chief, support my assertion. The situation is only made worse when emergency vehicles egress the fire station at 27 High Street.

In short, the proposed driveway location is ill considered at best and dangerous at worst. Topsfield's own vehicular data suggests it may even violate Commonwealth safety standards (on record at town hall) - creating the potential for driver and pedestrian injury or death and exposing Emerson Homes to legal liability.

I urge you to reconsider and select a more suitable site.

Sincerely,

Deborah Crocker