



TOWN OF HOPKINTON

OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN

18 Main Street

Hopkinton, MA 01748

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Selectmen@Hopkinton.org

May 20, 2009

Honorable James P. McGovern
Massachusetts 3rd District
438 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re Legacy Farms, Hopkinton Massachusetts

Dear Congressman McGovern:

As you know, the Town of Hopkinton has been engaged, over the past five years, in a comprehensive effort to plan and implement a new vision for a substantial portion of its East Hopkinton neighborhood. This effort has involved hundreds of volunteer hours, substantial professional advice and consultation, and the diligent attention of our Land Use Study Committee, Master Planning Committee, Zoning Advisory Committee and Planning Board.

The result was a significant amendment to our Zoning Bylaws, approved by an 87% favorable vote at our 2008 Annual Town Meeting, creating an Open Space Mixed-Use Overlay District, pursuant to which development of a planned, low-impact development can be approved through the issuance of a Master Plan Special Permit. We believe that development of East Hopkinton in accordance with such a Special Permit will provide the Town and the region with significant physical, environmental and fiscal benefits, and we are concerned that, due to difficulties in the current credit market, these benefits will be substantially delayed or even lost.

Hopkinton's Planning Board is currently reviewing a Master Plan Special Permit application submitted by Roy MacDowell Jr. and Legacy Farms LLC. Before considering our zoning changes to accommodate Mr. MacDowell's proposals, we satisfied ourselves about his abilities and commitment to the Town. Mr. MacDowell has worked very hard to earn the trust and respect of Hopkinton's residents, and we believe that he can realize our vision for the future of East Hopkinton.

Mr. MacDowell hopes to advance and finalize the project's permitting over the next several months so that implementation may begin when more normal economic circumstances appear. It is our understanding, however, that Legacy Farms requires the cooperation of its lenders in order to keep the project's permitting on track. To that end, we hope that you and other members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation will join us in supporting this important public-private effort.

Thank you for your continued courtesy and attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Brian J. Herr,
Chairman



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May 21, 2009

Congressman Barney Frank
2252 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re Legacy Farms, Hopkinton Massachusetts

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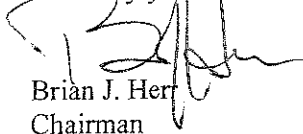
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