



Casey Thayer <cthayer@franklinma.gov>

Zoning Board of Appeals mtg - Oct 24th comment on 275 Washington St. Special Permit

Mark Lewin <marklewin@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 9:19 PM

To: "cthayer@franklinma.gov" <cthayer@franklinma.gov>

Dear Zoning Board of Appeals,

We are writing to express our opposition to the Special Permit requested for the property on 275 Washington Street (the property) that would allow a dog day care and kennel. The concerns we have are as follows:

- 1) Safety concerns due to increased traffic. This property is already in a more residential area and traffic has always been a major concern. An additional traffic load during commuter and school bus times would not be safe.
- 2) You can only exit 275 Washington to the right, south, and anyone wanting to go in the other direction would likely turn around on either Taft Drive or Wilson Road, further increasing traffic on these dead-end streets. This property was not intended to have this much of a traffic load.
- 3) Increased noise due to barking. This would be especially difficult for the residential homes abutting the property. The time to address this issue is before permission is granted, not after the fact.
- 4) Although a plan for dog walking seems to still be in flux, walking dogs on Taft Drive and Wilson Road will further add to the dog waste in our neighborhood. To claim that this would not happen is not good enough, the neighbors would be in a difficult position to try and prohibit this after the fact.
- 5) Environmental concerns from dog waste in and around the general area.
- 6) Concern about setting a precedent for expansion of the property use. This property was originally zoned for light industrial use, warehouse, and office space between the hours of 7am to 5pm. We believe this was to alleviate concerns about traffic and noise as the property is located in a residential area. Allowing a special permit for a dog kennel expands this plan and raises the concern that further expansion of the property's use will continue to be permitted.

Due to all of these concerns we are requesting that this special permit be denied. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mark and Gayle Lewin

16 Wilson Road, Franklin