



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING  
& LIVABLE COMMUNITIES**

Maura T. Healey, Governor ◆ Kimberley Driscoll, Lt. Governor ◆ Edward M. Augustus, Jr., Secretary

January 15, 2026

Via electronic mail and first class mail

Mr. Jamie Hellen  
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RE: Local Initiative Program (LIP) Project – 444 East Central Street, Franklin

Dear Mr. Hellen, Mr. Dellorco & Attorney Freeman:

I am writing to acknowledge the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (“EOHLC”) has received various communications relating to the proposed Local Initiative Program project at 444 East Central Street in Franklin. Specifically, we received the following:

- Letter from Attorneys Peter Freeman and Jesse Schomer, counsel to developer, dated December 9, 2025, in response to a vote taken by the Franklin Town Council on November 19, 2025 withdrawing support for the LIP project;
- Letter from Robert Dellorco, Chair of the Franklin Town Council, dated December 17, 2025, providing further information on the Council’s vote to withdraw support for the LIP project and asserting project changes were material in nature; and
- Letter from Attorney Freeman, dated January 5, 2026, reiterating the contents of its December 9<sup>th</sup> letter to EOHLC and asserting changes to the LIP project during the local hearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals were minor in nature, many in response to feedback from neighbors or the Zoning Board of Appeals (“ZBA”).

We understand that the ZBA opened the public hearing on the project application on March 27, 2025, holding several sessions at which public comment could be given, and closed the hearing

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on November 20, 2025. The ZBA voted on December 23, 2025 to approve the comprehensive permit, with conditions, and the written decision was filed with the Town Clerk on December 31, 2025.

The deadline by which this decision can be appealed (January 20, 2026) has not yet passed; therefore, we ask that the Town and developer's counsel continue to keep us updated as to the project's status. If the decision is not further appealed, or there are additional project changes resulting from an appeal, we will review the pertinent project changes at the final approval stage.

Sincerely,

Rieko Hayashi /s/

Rieko Hayashi  
LIP Program Director

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