



TOWN OF FRANKLIN

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Franklin Municipal Building
257 Fisher Street
Franklin, MA 02038-3026

February 12, 2024

Mr. Bryan Taberner
Planning & Community Development Director
Town of Franklin
355 East Central Street
Franklin, MA 02038

**RE: Proposed Prospect Hill Village - Bellingham,
Traffic Impact and Access Study**

Dear Bryan,

As requested, I reviewed the November 2023 Traffic Impact & Access Study for the proposed 156 unit housing development off of Prospect St. As you noted in your January 25th, 2024 letter to the Bellingham Planning Board, I fully agree that a peer review of the traffic study by a third party traffic consultant is warranted and necessary. After reviewing the study, I offer the following comments:

1. The study area is limited to the Prospect St and Lake St intersection, and the two proposed site drives on Prospect St, all of which are located within the Town of Franklin. At a minimum, the study should also include an analysis of impacts to the signalized intersection of Route 140 at Maple St in Bellingham, and the unsignalized intersection of Prospect St at Washington St in Franklin.
2. Crash data was only evaluated for the intersection of Lake St at Prospect St. In addition to including the above noted intersections of Maple St at Route 140 and Prospect at Washington St in the analysis, there are two sharp 90 degree turns along Prospect St in Franklin near house #283, and #215. These two curves should also be evaluated from a safety standpoint.
3. While the sight distance analysis addresses the minimum required Stopping Sight Distance (SSD), the report also refers to Intersection Sight Distance (ISD) however no analysis of the ISD was provided. While the SSD is the absolute minimum sight distance needed for vehicles entering the roadway in order to avoid collisions, the ISD is the desirable sight distance in order to accommodate operations and to help avoid near misses. The ISD should also be evaluated in the analysis.

4. In regards to background traffic growth and other vicinity developments, the study references the new distribution warehouse under construction at the intersection of Maple St and Route 140, however no trips from this development were included on Prospect St, the reason for which was given as its proximity to Route 140 and I-495. It's been witnessed that significant traffic from other nearby distribution warehouses, specifically delivery vehicles from the Amazon Distribution Center on Maple St, regularly use Prospect St and as such it seems that it would be appropriate to include additional trips as part of the background growth trip distribution.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Maglio', with a stylized, cursive script.

Michael Maglio, P.E.
Town Engineer

cc: Gregory Rondeau, Chair, Franklin Planning Board
Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator/CEO
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator
Mark Cerel, Town Attorney
Amy Love, Franklin Town Planner