

**Littleton Police Department
Office of the Chief of Police**

Memo

To: Littleton Board of Selectmen
From: Chief John M. Kelly
CC:
Date: 16 May 2011
Re: 15 Great Road, Omni Development

Members and Interested Parties,

Upon further review of this proposed project I would like to offer additional comments from the policing/public safety point of view.

1. Calls for service: Over a twelve month period the Littleton Police Department responds to Pondside Apartments, our only reference of comparison, an average of 140 times. These responses include domestic violence, neighbor disputes, suspicious activity, larceny, unwanted guests, intoxicated persons, drug activity, medicals, etc. Pondside Apartments is a complex consisting of 90 apartments and in considering the proposed 200 apartments at 15 Great Road it would be a realistic estimation that the police would respond to that location approximately 300 times per year.

2. Upon viewing the proposed entrance/exit to the development, and in particular the site distances, I observed the following:
 - Looking east when exiting there is a site distance of approximately 150 feet. Prior to that point of site there is a significant dip in the roadway in which you lose sight of vehicles depending on their profile. As a result you may be able to see to the traffic light at Nagog, but you do not know what is going on between that point and the 150 foot sight distance point. You also cannot see the vehicles coming out of Nashoba Road and travelling west, towards you.
 - This is a concern as the entrance/exit is within a 50 MPH zone and at 50 MPH it would take a vehicle approx. 175 feet to come to a complete stop. As a result of the traffic light east of the location there is a tendency for vehicles to speed up in order to "make" a yellow light and, in addition, it is not unusual to have vehicles travel at 55 – 60 MPH through that area. This obviously compounds the matter of site distance.
 - A turning lane on Route 119, from the east, would be necessary in order to allow for safe turning movements into the development by westerly traffic.

- It is unknown how many additional accidents the police and fire departments would be responding to due to the challenges of the proposed entrance.

3. The development plan includes an access point onto Grist Mill Road in the area of # 72, which is a vacant lot. Upon sitting in the existing entrance to that lot it is apparent that it is a totally inappropriate point of access for the amount of traffic that could potentially utilize it (Some fraction of the total 1500 trips for the proposed development.)

- There is a site distance of 150 feet (at the most) in either direction.
- Each direction presents a blind corner at the point of site distance as the proposed access is located in the middle of an "S" curve bordered by a hill on the eastern side and vegetation on the western side.
- The sidewalk changes from one side of the street to the other directly adjacent to the proposed point of access.
- The existing construction conditions of Grist Mill Road is inadequate to handle more traffic than would be present at build-out for the Apple D'Or development as it was not constructed to the specifications of a collector street.

4. I believe it would be an accurate statement that the approval of this development, as proposed, would have a significant impact on the quality of life of the residents of the Apple D'Or and associated neighborhoods. It is a fact that such issues cause tensions between those that are causing the erosion of quality of life and those that experience it. Due to this I believe that the Littleton Police Department will be required to have a daily presence in the neighborhood proactively as well as reactively in order to deal with those matters.