



WESTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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September 13, 2021

To: Weston Zoning Board of Appeals

Re: Hanover Weston – 518 South Avenue

The Weston School Committee (“School Committee”) is charged with, among other things, ensuring the elementary and secondary education of the students within the Weston School District, including safe passage to and from school buildings and school-sponsored events. The School Committee understands that Hanover Weston (“Applicant”) has applied for a comprehensive permit for approximately 200 rental units on a property abutting South Avenue (“Development”). General land use within the Town of Weston is outside of the School Committee’s purview therefore the School Committee takes no position on whether the Applicant’s comprehensive permit should be allowed. But should the Applicant’s comprehensive permit be allowed, the School Committee offers these suggested provisions to the comprehensive permit to minimize potential disruptions to the Weston School District.

The School Committee acknowledges that South Avenue in the proximity of the proposed Development is a heavily traveled state road, especially in the mornings, and there are no sidewalks or other safe areas for students to wait for the bus without crossing South Avenue. This hazard to students awaiting school buses only increases in the winter months where snow could substantially narrow the area for students to congregate on an active driveway feeding an anticipated 200 housing units. Therefore, the School Committee has voted unanimously (5-0) to request the following two provisions be added to any comprehensive permit to provide a safe dedicated area close to the residential units for school bus use.

The Applicant will not prohibit the entry of school buses for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers from the property.

The Applicant will provide a dedicated off-street paved surface, within thirty feet of one of the Development’s public entrances continuous with the Development’s driveway, intended for the safe loading and unloading of passengers from a full-sized school bus. The driveway shall be of a sufficient width and dimensions to allow for full-sized school buses to turn around without traversing on an unpaved surface, and to turn around without being required to drive in reverse.

The School Committee further recognizes the vital importance enrollment planning is to the District. To decrease budgetary and sectioning uncertainty, the School Committee has voted unanimously (5-0) to request the following provision be added to any comprehensive permit, requiring the leasing agent of the Hanover Weston development to notify the school district's Business Office of school-aged residents moving into the development as soon as feasible.

The Applicant will notify the Weston Public Schools Finance and Operations Office of incoming development residents ages three (3) through seventeen (18). The notice will be provided in writing via email to the Superintendent of Schools as well as the District's Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations within five (5) business days of lease execution.

Respectfully submitted,

The Weston School Committee

Anita Raman, Chair

Kenneth A. Newberg, Vice-Chair

Danielle Black

Attia Linnard

Alyson Muzila