

From: ALEXANDRA GARCIA-MATA <agarciamata@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 6:30 PM

To: Sarah Mellish <ZBACChairperson@manchester.ma.us>

Cc: Tiffany Marletta <marlettat@manchester.ma.us>

Subject: SLV proposed project

Dear Ms. Mellish,

I am adding my voice, as a longtime citizen of this town, to the general outcry against the SLV proposal now before you. The developer is employing many of the standard tactics that developers use to force their will upon a town, namely, using the 40B law as a cudgel, failing to provide adequate information to the town and hiring consultants, so-called experts, to write favorable reports.

The plan under your review has major flaws. First, it requires a huge amount of blasting, which is, of course, highly detrimental to the natural environment; in particular, it is dangerous to the geology of the area, the groundwater, and our precious nearby drinking water supply, as well as a large area of vital conservation land. Secondly, clear-cutting the forest in this large area further increases environmental damage, eliminating vernal pools and other micro-habitats for plants and animals, some of which may be rare or endangered, but the environmental impact statement of the developer was totally inadequate, a hasty attempt to greenwash a clearly unsuitable location. SLV is asking for 19 waivers. Enough said!

Third, our town already has a Housing Authority with a plan to expand and improve low-cost housing in various parts of the town, while the SLV will not provide anywhere near a sufficient number of low-cost units (and would we have any say in what he considers "affordable?") The town's recently purchased apartment building off Elm Street will add more public housing in a suitable location, close to shops and public transportation. The new state law encouraging higher density, smaller scale housing near the commuter rail offers another appropriate way to create some permanently affordable public housing. Our town needs to support that kind of small-scale development. SLV's massive project, far from public transportation and shops, is NOT what this town needs or wants.

Sincerely, Alexandra Garcia-Mata, 70 Lincoln St.