COMMUNITY
HARVEST PROJECT

37 Wheeler Road
North Grafton, MA 01536
www.community-harvest.org

July 1, 2016

RECEIVED
JUL 12 2016
PLANNING BOARD
GRAFTON, MA

Board of Selectmen
Planning Board
Town of Grafton
30 Providence Rd.
Grafton, MA 01519

Re: Elmrock Estates Comprehensive Permit Site Approval Application

Dear Board Members,

We are writing to express our concern with the proposed Elmrock Estates (Fieldstone Farms) site approval application. This high-density development abuts our farm and headquarters at the Brigham Hill Community Farm on Wheeler Road.

Our organization, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, brings volunteers to our farm where they grow an annual crop of vegetables to be donated to local hunger relief organizations, primarily the Worcester County Food Bank. Last year we hosted over 10,000 volunteer visits to this farm.

Many of our volunteer groups consist of schoolchildren, who arrive in buses and then work in our fields. We have use of fields on both sides of Wheeler Road, both on the Brigham Hill Community Farm property and on property graciously loaned to us by the White family. This occasions a great deal of foot traffic, as well as farm vehicle traffic, crossing Wheeler Road.

This is currently a quiet area, in part due to the tremendous quantity of conserved land in the immediate vicinity, and to date the traffic on Wheeler Road has not posed a significant concern. The addition of 36 houses immediately adjacent to our farm could have a disproportionate impact on our program and potentially represent an increased safety hazard.

We are also concerned with the potential for disruption due to a prolonged period of major construction in the immediate vicinity of the farm.

Sincerely,

Scott Rossiter
Volunteer Board President

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
GRAFTON, MA