

TOWN OF LINCOLN

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

P.O. BOX 353

LINCOLN CENTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01773

TELEPHONE 617/259-8850



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

JOHN C. GOODRICH, CHAIRMAN

JOHN R. CASWELL

SUSAN C. FARGO

January 26, 1988

Commissioner Thomas J. Larkin, Chairman
Commissioner William H. Schmidt
Commissioner Michael E. McLaughlin
Middlesex County Commissioners
New Superior Courthouse
40 Thorndike Street
Cambridge, MA 02141

Dear Commissioners:

The current petitions before you relating to Old County Road and Winter Street in Waltham, Lincoln and Weston, raise significant issues, not just with regard to the Boston Properties proposal but to all of the commercial development occurring in the Route 128/Winter Street area. Lengthy testimony was presented at the December 1st hearing on these petitions, and substantial material has been submitted to you in writing. The common concern mentioned in virtually all of the comments was the impact a 1.2 million square foot office complex would have on the surrounding area. However, the proposed Boston Properties project cannot be considered in isolation, as it is located in a region of intense development. The land is adjacent to the Bay Colony Corporate Center, which, when completed, will contain a total of one million square feet, and very near the potential GTE expansion. Two other office buildings and a hotel to be situated in the Winter Street corridor west of Route 128 are in the final planning stages. In the case of still a third office project, the developer, Robert Beal, has just agreed to reduce the size of his 430,000 square foot building by 50% to lessen the impacts on the environment.

The most important resource impacted by these numerous developments is the Cambridge Reservoir. This vital water source must not be jeopardized in any way, since any diminution of water supply from the Hobbs Brook Reservoir would greatly overburden the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, to which the City of Cambridge would have to turn for water. The MWRA is already in excess of its safe yield for the communities it currently serves.

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The affected area also encompasses historic districts, residential neighborhoods, and local roads in Waltham, Weston and Lincoln, as well as numbered roads such as Routes 117 and 2 which traverse these and other communities. The Route 128/Winter Street interchange must be included, together with Route 128 itself, which is dangerously close to saturation from commuter traffic. Commercial businesses in the immediate vicinity are likewise impacted.

Continued development in the Winter Street area will undoubtedly occur, but whatever projects are allowed to proceed must be thoroughly reviewed in terms of their relationship to the area as a whole and in terms of the capacity of the infrastructure to support them. Proposals must not be approved in a piecemeal fashion without regard to their context, and all possible mitigation measures must be considered and implemented. Therefore, the undersigned city and towns request that:

1. The magnitude and details of the proposed Boston Properties project be known and understood by all parties;
2. The capacity of the infrastructure be thoroughly reviewed in light of all of the present and future developments in the Winter Street area;
3. The impacts on the Cambridge Reservoir from this and all other projects be studied in detail and the proposed protective measures be assessed for adequacy and feasibility.
4. The impact of this and other projected developments in the Winter Street area on the quality of life in the adjoining communities of Waltham, Weston, Lexington and Lincoln be comprehensively examined and understood.

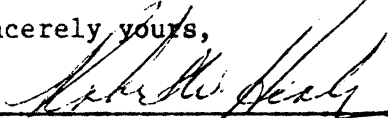
Clearly, the above requests should be made the subject of a full environmental impact report and the accompanying public comment process. We strongly believe that such a report should be completed and approved by the Secretary of Environmental Affairs prior to any

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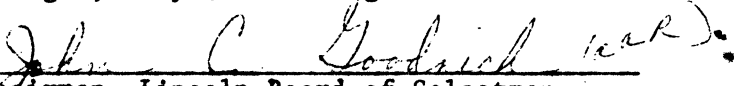
decision regarding the petitions. We, therefore, request that you dismiss all five petitions for lack of definitive information.

We stand ready to work with you, Waltham, and the developers to assure that the aforementioned goals are realized.

Sincerely yours,



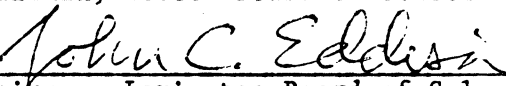
Manager, City of Cambridge



Chairman, Lincoln Board of Selectmen



Chairman, Weston Board of Selectmen



Chairman, Lexington Board of Selectmen

BS/aar

Sincerely yours,

Manager, City of Cambridge

Chairman, Lincoln Board of Selectmen

Chairman, Weston Board of Selectmen

Chairman, Lexington Board of Selectmen

" Bedford BOS

cc: Governor Dukakis

All area Senators and Representatives

MEPA

Secretary Amy Anthony

Secretary Hoyte

Secretary Salvucci

Commissioner Tierney

Paul Reay, MWR A

Jan February 1 '88

Whereas the Middlesex County
Commissioners have before them
petitions relating to ^a developments
~~by Boston Properties~~ ^{by Boston Properties} on Old County
Road and Winter Street in
Waltham, Lincoln, & Weston

And ^{there is other}
Whereas ^{commercial} ~~this~~ development being
built and planned in this
area containing millions of square
feet of commercial space
and

Whereas "the most important
resource impacted by these

Insert ①

And

Whereas current conditions
surrounding the reservoir,
including existing development
and road salt, already
make the reservoir vulnerable,

numerous developments, 'is The
Addenbrooke Halls Brook
Reservoir, ~~the~~ ^{supplying} Cambridge
with drinking water,

Insert ①

it is ~~hereby~~ resolved that

the Cambridge City Council

hereby goes on record

as requesting the Middlesex

County Commissioners to ~~postpone~~ ^{refuse}

~~action on~~ ^(dismiss) ~~any~~ ^{all} permits requested
in this area until

② a full environmental

impact report can determine

the extent of ^{negative} impact of
these projects on the Cambridge
water supply

~~and~~

(~~the~~) appropriate mitigation
measures

and further that a copy
of this resolution be ~~sent~~
forwarded to the County
Commission ~~on~~ prior to its
February 2 meeting on these
permits and to all the
officials who have received the
attached letter.



City of Cambridge

11.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 1, 1988

VICE-MAYOR WOLF

- WHEREAS: The Middlesex County Commissioners have before them petitions relating to a development by Boston Properties on Old County Road and Winter Street in Waltham, Lincoln and Weston; and
- WHEREAS: There is other development being built and planned in this area containing millions of square feet of commercial space; and
- WHEREAS: "The most important resource impacted by these numerous developments", is the Hobbs Brook Reservoir, supplying Cambridge with drinking water; and
- WHEREAS: Current conditions surrounding the Reservoir, including existing development and road salt, already make the Reservoir vulnerable; it is thereby
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council hereby goes on record as requesting the Middlesex County Commissioners to dismiss all permits requested in this area until a full environmental impact report can determine the extent of negative impact of these projects on the Cambridge water supply; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the County Commission, prior to its February 2, 1988 meeting on these permits and to all the officials who have received the attached letter.

2/1/88 - RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN BY VICE-MAYOR WOLF.

Order #11

S-53

VM Wolf re: resolutions in which the City Council goes on record requesting the Middlesex County Commissioners to dismiss all permits requested in the area relating to the petitions for a development by Boston Properties on Old County Road & Winter St. in Waltham, Lincoln & Weston.

In City Council,

February 1, 1988

W. Therman by Request

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Vice Mayor Wolf