



DANIEL C. O'LEARY  
CHIEF OF POLICE

## BROOKLINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Brookline, Massachusetts*

February 7, 2014

To: Dan Bennett, Building Commissioner  
Alison Steinfeld, Planning Director

From: Daniel C. O'Leary, Chief of Police

Subject: Hancock Village Proposal

The Police Department does have concerns regarding the proposed construction at Hancock Village. From our review of the proposed plans, the additional housing units will result in an increase in

residents and visitors throughout the area. There will be an impact on both foot and vehicular traffic. Furthermore, I believe we will see an increase in families which will increase the number of school children walking to Baker School.

Because of the above, and in the interest of public safety, there is a need for a traffic impact study to determine whether or not a traffic/pedestrian signal light is necessary at the intersection with Independence Drive. The closest signal lights now are at the intersection of Beverly and Independence as well as VFW Parkway and Independence. Because of this, it is our belief that there is a need for a signal light added to this area at a location between the existing lights referred to above. As with other high traffic locations in Town, there will most likely be a need for a School Crossing Guard for this location as well.

A considerable amount of Independence Drive is flat and straight. This has contributed to speeding along the roadway. We have conducted numerous speeding enforcement activities at all hours of the day and night. In order to safely accommodate the influx of traffic to Hancock Village as well as the increase in parked vehicles on Independence Drive, curb juts-outs or some other form of traffic calming should be considered.

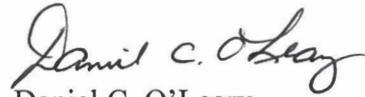
With the increase in population density consideration must be given to accessibility for emergency vehicles to get into, out of and around the Village. For example our medical response requires Police, Fire and Ambulance vehicles to respond. These vehicles should not be a position where they are blocked in. It is imperative that they have easy access around the Village.



Security around the Village is also a major concern. A lot of attention needs to be given regarding adequate lighting for the parking lots, walkways, and other public spaces. Access to and from multi-family buildings should have the latest security features installed. This includes cameras which will allow for viewing and recording of public areas. The overall design of these public areas should be a process that includes crime prevention as a goal.

The Police Department would be interested in meeting with the designers prior to final submission of the construction plan. It would be our hope to provide for the safety of motor vehicles, occupants and pedestrians as well as reducing the risk of the development becoming a target of criminals.

DCO/kaf



Daniel C. O'Leary  
Chief of Police

