Public Comment

Wilkens Phase II-24026-Barnstable

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Town/Village: Barnstable
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via online form

Comment

PDF File submitted: Yes

2/10/25 Wilkins 2: Public Comment:

1- Aside from my distaste for the size and design of this project, and my belief that it does not provide the type of workforce housing that our community wants or needs, I want to voice my concern for how Hanover Hyannis II will be managing their water resources. To my eye they are already acting irresponsibly in the stewardship of their Hanover Hyannis I property.

   It's hard to trust an organization whose "backyard" is both neglected and filled with litter and debris. By way of example, I cite the Hanover I property along Kidd's Hill Road. Until recently, among other debris was an abandoned shopping cart that resided along the roadway for over a month. A sign advertising "apartments for rent" was destroyed by a windy storm and the dilapidated frame remained on sight for several weeks before it was removed.

   Further, the sightlines as you exit Wilkins Lane to the north are obscured by shrubbery. A bit of pruning would greatly improve the safety of cars exiting Wilkins Lane.

   I find it hard to trust a company to comply with important water resource management policies when it is ignoring issues that are obvious and easy to remedy.

2- This leads me to the issue of stormwater run-off.

   Cape Cod Commission's Staff Report reveals a subtle line through the middle of the project. This line defines the watersheds and the direction of water run-off from the Hanover Hyannis II property. The northern side of this line indicates run-off toward Barnstable Harbor, specifically the Rendezvous Creek marsh system located north of Barnstable Village.

   The report states that the Barnstable Harbor watershed is not considered to be "impaired". However, recent water quality testing reveals that Barnstable Harbor's waters are in fact indicating growing signs of impairment.

   The 2017 Mass Estuaries Project Nitrogen Study determined that most of Barnstable Harbor had not reached its total maximum nitrogen load. The areas that were identified as being impaired were Maraspin Creek and the marina, areas that are adjacent to Rendezvous Creek Marsh.

   Association to Preserve Cape Cod's 2024 State of the Waters report shows that Barnstable Harbor's waters are becoming increasingly impaired. As Andrew Gottlieb stated, Barnstable Harbor's impaired waters are being found closer and closer to its main channels.

   Cape Cod Commission's Staff Report states that Hanover Hyannis II will provide filtration, monitoring, and other means of treating the stormwater in their catch basins, however, it's difficult to trust them given their track record on Kidd's Hill Road.

   Finally, even under the best of circumstances, Hanover Hyannis II's stormwater catch basins will leach impaired water into the ground water, and the ground water eventually reaches our embayments. <u>In the case of Hanover Hyannis II, this embayment is Barnstable Harbor.</u>

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Monitoring Organiz

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- [x] SMAST Marine
- [x] WBNERR Bayw
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Map Layers

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Sentinel Stations

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