

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DONNA L. MOULTRUP, R.N., C.H.O.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

(617) 993-2720
Fax (617) 993-2721




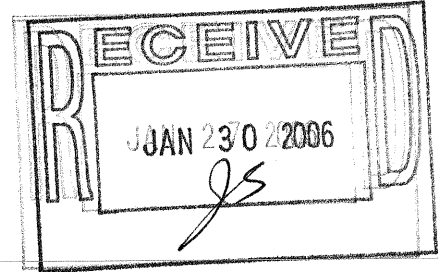
P.O. BOX 56, 19 MOORE STREET
BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS 02478

BOARD OF HEALTH
DAVID B. ALPER, D.P.M.
DONNA S. DAVID, R.N., M.N.
ROBERT M. EISENDRATH, M.D.

January 30, 2006

TO: Jay Szklut, Planning and Economic Development Manager

FROM: Donna Moultrup, Director 



RE: Belmont Uplands 40B Application

I reviewed the Belmont Uplands Application as carefully as time would allow and have just a few comments. I believe that the Health Department will be more involved when more detailed plans are submitted, but I am using this opportunity to raise several issues that will be important to us.

- 1) While I realize that the area in question is in large part wetlands already, this development will create retention ponds and will dramatically increase the number of people exposed to wetlands areas, and thus, mosquitoes. A plan for reducing the mosquito hazard, such as regular larviciding of the retention ponds and other water holding areas, if they hold water for more than five days, should be included in this plan. Any storm drains added to the Town's system due to this development will be taken care of automatically as part of our efforts to reduce the mosquito population in the Town.
- 2) We will want to work very closely with the landscape architects to make sure that the landscaping is not good at catching blowing trash, that it does not make a dense ground cover for rodents and does not create dense areas of brush for wildlife like coyotes to hide behind. Since those kinds of things are also security issues, particularly for walkers and children, I don't anticipate any problems. The wildlife issue is sometimes overlooked, however, believing that this is a very urban setting.
- 3) The Health Department will need detailed plans concerning the construction and landscaping of the pool and its surroundings. The current plans appear to have more trees in the area than I think we are going to like. The regulations on fences and sanitation are quite strict regarding pools and the construction plans require the approval of the Board of Health.
- 4) Lastly, we will need to know the plans for rubbish and garbage storage and removal on the site.

I believe that covers the areas of interest for the Health Department and that many of these plans will be submitted in the future. I just thought that it might be helpful to have the information sooner rather than later.

Thanks very much.

