

February 24, 2021

Kevin M. Ellis, Chairman
Planning Board
Town of Hingham
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

RE: 100 Industrial Park Road

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The Hingham Development and Industrial Commission (HDIC) recommends that the Planning Board not grant approval for the Amazon Package Fulfillment Center at 100 Industrial Park Road. Through thoughtful discussion, the Commission's rationale is as follows:

- We are concerned that increased traffic from the Amazon Package Fulfillment Center will negatively impact adjoining businesses and residences, most notably during the holiday season when Amazon expects to be operating its delivery fleet at close to the terminal's capacity. This will likely impact traffic patterns throughout the Derby Street corridor and throughout its adjacent feeder roads. Collateral traffic impacts will include year-round (and, particularly, during the holiday season) threats to ingress and egress at the Derby Street Shoppes - which are already under pressure both from Covid-19 and from ongoing disintermediation from on-line shopping.
- We expect the above-noted pressures to only grow through time. It has been indicated that Amazon expects to operate the depot at near peak capacity during the Holiday season. Since Amazon's business can be expected to grow briskly, it is therefore likely the Town will face future applications by Amazon to expand the company's footprint within the South Hingham parcel.
- The Town has done a significant amount of work over the last eight years trying to create a vision that could increase and diversify revenues to Hingham while improving the quality of life for the residents. Had it not been for the Pandemic, we are convinced that we would have had one, maybe two large landowners coming before Town Meeting with significant new plans for South Hingham. We believe that those plans would have included moderately priced housing units, light industrial, parks, mixed use, open space and, the centerpiece, a South Hingham Village that would serve the needs and provide a unique sense of place for South Hingham's residents. We believe the traffic generated by the Amazon Package Fulfillment Center would greatly diminish the ability to create much of what has been envisioned. We are concerned that the Amazon application jeopardizes years of work with very little return for the Town.

Thank you,

Michael Kranzley, Chair
Brian Stack
Nancy Wiley
Jill Nilsen
Dan McGonagle
Kevin O'Brien

