

Dear Members of the Hingham Historic Districts Commission,

We are writing to formally express opposition to the proposed redevelopment of 709 Main Street. Our family has been Hingham residents for twenty-one (21) years and the homeowners of 36 Mill Lane for that time. We strongly support the historic preservation efforts in Hingham, which largely contributes to its charm and distinguished appeal as a town of choice to live. As a local Realtor, having represented both sellers and buyers of many historic properties in town, I am familiar with the Commission's standards and oversight. We believe in the Hingham Historic Commission's unwavering commitment to maintaining the architectural integrity and beauty of Hingham's historic homes, districts, and neighborhoods.

As you are aware, the existing home at 709 Main Street is a deeply historic property dating to 1747. Pre Revolutionary properties in the condition of 709 Main Street are increasingly uncommon, and the 709 Main Street Property is one of the oldest properties remaining in the Glad Tiding Plain.

It is undeniable that the proposed design conflicts with the character of the existing home and demonstrates a woeful disregard for the historic nature of the home, its neighborhood, and Hingham. The proposed plan would replace its current historic charm with the look and feel of a suburban condominium complex. Equally as important, massing-out a property like this on a relatively small 0.77 acre lot, sets a dangerous precedent. This project is out of place in the Glad Tiding Plain on Main Street, or in any of Hingham's historic districts.

We respectfully urge the Commission to carefully consider the implications of this project. Preserving the historic integrity of our community should remain paramount. Approving a plan that so significantly and unnecessarily alters a historic home would set an unfortunate precedent for Hingham.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please confirm receipt.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey K. Alexander  
John M. Pletzke  
36 Mill Lane  
Hingham, MA 02043