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Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:04 AM

To: Sarah Mellish <ZBAChairperson@manchester.ma.us>

Subject: Shingle Hill Proposal

Hello,

My name is Jason Leavitt, I live in Gloucester and I work at the Essex County Club. I cook nights there where I started writing this much earlier. I've been visiting Milestone Hill for around five years and since I began work right down the street, a little over a year ago, I'm there usually three days a week. Not from lack of options by any means. I've found many within a 10 mile radius, now, I frequent Milestone Hill more than any other primarily from the incredible amount of biodiversity I've encountered there.

Flora and fauna. Bald Eagles, Lady Slippers, you name it. Within a four mile radius of Milestone Hill, the only animals I haven't seen are bears, badgers or wolverines. Though I've found tracks of both Badgers and Wolverines. Birds, insects, reptiles, amphibians, and nearly every mammal indigenous to the area can be found there. Who knows, maybe all of them are present.

Those wetlands are the epicenter of a fragile ecosystem making the surrounding woodlands equally detrimental to the foodchain and biosphere. This is why I oppose the location for the new build. The integrity of the surrounding land has allowed everything to flourish there. Everything used to build Shingle Hill will find its way into the ground, soon after, the water. We haven't found a way yet to not have such a large impact on the environment when building at that scale. The damage could be irrevocable. I feel building in and around land with connecting waterways are not suitable for large developments. Especially when its generations down that will feel the negative effects of such choices.

Thank you for your time, Attached are a few shots I've taken in various seasons in the park. A few were color adjusted, a couple that weren't. Perhaps someone over in parks and recreation can make use of them if they like or whoever's responsible for Milestone Hill. They provided an excellent backdrop.