



# TEMPLE SHIR TIKVA שִׁיר תְּקוּוּהָ

141 Boston Post Road, Wayland, MA 01778 TEL: 508 358 9992 www.shirtikva.org

November 29, 2017

Wayland Zoning Board of Appeals  
41 Cochituate Road  
Wayland, MA 01778

Dear Members of the Zoning Board of Appeals:

We write today to express our concerns for our environment and our neighbors in relationship to the proposed development, 'Cascade Wayland' planned for the former Mahoney's Garden site.

Camp Chickami is a wonderful neighbor and partner to Temple Shir Tikva (TST). Upon review of environmental studies, they have found that the current project will severely affect the property. The flooding and the brook will be impacted. As a neighbor to Camp Chickami, this is concerning to us.

Every summer, there are a few major rain storms. Given that these storms create flooding for the camp, putting the children and staff in danger, TST is happy to be the flood evacuation site each summer. If 'Cascade Wayland' will further impact the flooding, we are concerned.

**Flood damage:** According to the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA), these areas are, "... are likely to be significant to flood control and storm damage prevention." The WPA notes in 310 CMR 10.57(1)a:

"Bordering Land Subject to Flooding provides a temporary storage area for flood water which has overtopped the bank of the main channel of a creek, river or stream or the basin of a pond or lake. During periods of peak run-off, flood waters are both retained (i.e., slowly released through evaporation and percolation) and detained (slowly released through surface discharge) by Bordering Land Subject to Flooding. Over time, incremental filling of these areas causes increases in the extent and level of flooding by eliminating flood storage volume or by restricting flows, thereby causing increases in damage to public and private properties."

If the proposed project fills the flood zone, this will increase flood damage to other properties, upstream and down. Camp Chickami and Temple Shir Tikva are a short distance downstream.

**Environmental damage:** According to various studies, which have been given to the ZBA, the proposed project will impact wildlife, specifically, the Eastern Brook Trout.

Our Jewish tradition teaches us to care for our planet in order to preserve that which God has created. Psalm 24 notes, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," a



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dramatic assertion of God's ownership of the land. It follows, then, that any act that damages our earth is an offense against the property of God. The Jewish concept of *bal tashchit*, "do not destroy," forbids needless destruction.

Thus, we respectfully request that the ZBA require compliance with all aspects of the Department of Environmental Protection regulations. Temple Shir Tikva must protect our earth and respect our neighbors.

Respectfully,

Danny Burkeman  
Rabbi

Susan Altman  
Executive Director