

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed construction of a gas station in our cherished historic neighborhood. Frankly stated, not all change is worthy of pursuit and our historic village is one of few unadulterated examples in the area. Its unique character is irreplaceable once lost, and settings such as historic Concord are rarely found any longer.

A handful of gas pumps and convenient junk food isn't worthy "progress", and such an outpost doesn't deserve to be on every corner. Notably, several similar such facilities, seemingly dime-a-dozen, can be found roughly 3 miles or less and a five minute drive in any direction (e.g., Weigels on Choto and Westland). Thankfully, these locations haven't had the gall to locate themselves immediately adjacent to a historic zone seldom found in such condition as Concord.

Consider a scenario in which your home is impacted by the introduction of an adjacent gas station, bringing with it an unwelcome increase in noise, smell, and light pollution. A hum of traffic, an air of greasy food, and lights shining brightly at otherwise peaceful hours, shattering the ambiance that currently characterizes our neighborhood. Such disturbances are not only a nuisance but can have detrimental effects on both human health and local wildlife.

Consider the increase of traffic on our streets, where cut-through traffic has thankfully been minimized otherwise, laid out long before modern vehicles existed and are clearly ill-equipped to handle a significant influx of cars and trucks. Increased flow and congestion result in increased accident risk – especially in a family oriented neighborhood where walkers abound and children play frequently.

Consider the proximity of this proposed development to our adjacent cemetery—a solemn place of rest for many generations. The sanctity of this site must be preserved, and anyone would be hard pressed to find a less respectful installation than a gas station, where the bustling of frequent and short-lived transactions run completely counter to the modus operandi of a long standing cemetery.

Please recognize that some spaces are too precious for such disruptive change and nix this proposal. Preserve what makes our neighborhood truly special by helping find a worthy neighbor, rather than sacrificing our village for a short-term profit and "convenience" that is already available and easily placed in a much more appropriate alternative area.

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