



October 21, 2020

Town of Hingham Planning Board
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

Re: 100 Industrial Park Road, Public Comments

Venus Wafers Inc. operates two buildings in the industrial park. An owner occupied building at 70 Research Road for more than 30 years and a tenant occupied building at 100 Research Road for more than 10 years. Venus Wafers is writing to express its concerns with road safety, congestion and other traffic issues anticipated by the proposed use of 100 Industrial Park Road as an Amazon fulfillment center.

The sharp 90 degree blind turn at the driveway entrance to 100 Industrial Park Road is an existing problem. The introduction of the proposed traffic volume onto the weakest point of the roadway without any mitigating corrections to that roadway can only adversely affect the safety of all those that use the roadway. For the present park occupants their employees walk the park during their lunch breaks as well as other folks from the neighborhood. The current traffic volume allows for this despite the lack of sidewalks. We do not believe that this would remain a safe option with the significant increase in traffic. We are concerned that there will more pedestrian vs. vehicle encounters. Pedestrians will come out on the short end each time. Will Amazon drivers obey park speed limits? Their history on the roadways, at least what I have seen documented in the media, suggest perhaps not as they are always under pressure to reduce time.

All this additional traffic will be entering/exiting the park through the current entrance. During peak times exiting traffic backs up for several light cycles beyond the health center. Will this now become an all day occurrence? Does this not call out for some type of mitigating solution?

As a park tenant we have had to call upon Hingham Fire and Police from time to time over the years. Even at present service levels our employees are forced to evacuate buildings during the middle of winter to await their arrival which can take up to 15 minutes. How long will the wait become with the traffic increase? Could it cause a life threatening situation if an ambulance is delayed?

If Amazon really plans to be good neighbors then they along with the Town of Hingham need to consider the concerns above and address them in their plans so current tenants do not face severe adverse effects.

Very truly yours,

Luke E. Barmakian
Luke Barmakian, President/Owner