

November 13, 2020

Mary Savage-Dunham  
Planning Board  
Town of Hingham  
210 Central Street  
Hingham, MA 02043-0239

Re: 100 Industrial Park Road, Hingham

Dear Ms. Savage-Dunham:

We are in receipt of Hingham Winsupply Company's letter dated October 21, 2020, containing concerns regarding the traffic, safety and parking for the application noted above. Our responses are indicated below in ***bold italic*** text and are as follows:

#### TRAFFIC

1. We currently supply over 500 local businesses. Approximately 50% of our business is conducted "over the counter" at 125 Industrial Park Rd. The remainder is done through deliveries with our box, rack and pick-up trucks. We also have several large tractor trailers arriving and departing daily. If the number of vehicles that Amazon is proposing on a daily basis is accurate (1,200), we expect that a high percentage of our customers would experience significant and unacceptable delays entering and exiting the park at Pond Park Rd. and Derby Street. This would place up to one half of our business at risk. Late last year, there was significant road work done at the entrance to the industrial park as they were upgrading the roadway along Derby Street and we saw a drop in counter traffic during that time period. Many of our customers voiced their frustration with the traffic delays and used our competitors to fill their orders. That disruption was only temporary, and minor compared to 1,200 additional vehicles entering and exiting the park, all through the single access point, and it provides an example of the likely effect on our business.

***Response: The traffic study supplied to the Planning Board was reviewed by Jeffrey Dirk, PE. Mr. Dirk was hired by the Town to perform a peer review of the traffic study. Mr. Dirk has reviewed and concurred with the findings of the traffic study. The study concludes that there are no significant impacts to the traffic capacity and operations in the surrounding area, which would include the Derby Street at Pond Park Road intersection. The Site will be undergoing a traffic monitoring program within 90 days following the receipt of a certificate of occupancy for the Site. If timing changes at the Pond Park Road and Derby Street intersection are necessary, revisions will be made at that time.***

## SAFETY

2. As I am sure you are aware, there is a 90-degree bend in the road located at the intersection of Industrial Park Rd. and the proposed Amazon site. This corner has been a safety issue for years and can only become worse upon Amazon opening their distribution center. The huge influx of delivery vehicles entering that site from Commerce Way, and then exiting at the curve on Industrial Park Rd. will add traffic and create a bottle-necking danger to everyone traveling within the park. With the added traffic, it will be nearly impossible for emergency vehicles to get access to any of the businesses within the park as well as exiting with any patients within their vehicles. I have to ask, with all of the money that Amazon is spending to convince the Town that their proposal won't have a huge negative impact on the park and the town, why aren't they proposing to use those funds to "fix" the existing and known problems? It makes no sense to layer the impacts of their proposal onto an already bad situation.

***Response: In the study, mitigation for sight distances and the curve in question have been recommended. Vegetation will be cleared to increase sight distances and signage will be added for the curve and intersection at Commerce Road with Industrial Park Road. The on-site traffic circulation has been modified to make the driveway access at Industrial Park Road to an egress only. Traffic will also be prohibited to make a left-out of this driveway, removing a conflict point at the curve.***

## PARKING

3. Amazon's proposal includes varying levels of tractor trailers, delivery vans, FLEX delivery vehicles and retail pick up. Based on the plans that have been filed, it appears that there is no margin of error in employee arrival times, contractor arrival times, tractor trailer arrival times, and corresponding departures. Any changes in those variables would affect the functionality of the parking scheme, and cause a "ripple-effect" where vehicles will be forced to park in other places of business within the park so they are close to "the hub". This concern is not invalid, as even a cursory review of news reports from other municipalities report on illegal vehicle staging and Amazon's inability to control the actions of non-employee "contractors". As a result, employees, customers and visitors to other businesses in the area will need to compete for parking.

***Response: Amazon's parking on-site will be sufficient for all operations such that neither contractors nor employees will be "competing" for parking at other locations in the park. Amazon has refined its operational model, knows that it has sufficient capacity in its site design to accommodate the vehicles that will be arriving and departing the Site, and will not experience the "ripple-effect" concern. Amazon operations will continue to work with the third-party delivery service providers to enforce requirements that staging and parking will not occur along roads or on other properties. Once the Site is operational, Amazon will provide the Town and industrial park with a point of contact to quickly address any issues as they arise.***

We trust this addresses your questions and concerns. If you require additional information, please feel free to contact me at 203-608-2438.

Sincerely,



Kevin Hixson  
Senior Project Manager