

Chairman Russell and Planning Board Membership,

With the current traffic load at commuter hours on Third Street, the proposed office building on 40 Thorndike Street (Sullivan courthouse) will significantly add to the daily traffic flow. Leggat McCall has stated in public meetings that there will be between 2000 and 3000 seated employees arriving and departing. This increase will totally overwhelm Third St, Second St and doubtless other side streets as employees, visitors and support staff attempt to reach McGrath Highway & I93.

It is unrealistic to expect that employee will use bicycles to commute, since office projects of this scale always attract a workforce from the entire region. In 2010 Massachusetts, 70% of the workforces commutes in a Single Occupant Passenger Vehicle.

I urge the zoning board to reject Leggat McCall's proposal until it no longer relies on 1st Street garage and an independent traffic study has reported.

The Leggat McCall design calls for 92 parking spaces under the courthouse.

Before permits should be issued, parking needs to be carefully and thoroughly designed such that employees and residents do not start parking on residential streets already in high demand from existing homeowners.

Almost all the nearby homeowners, landlords, and property tenants are opposed to Leggat McCall's proposal. I urge the board to reject the proposal in its current form, and engage with abutting property owners as well as state and regional stakeholders.

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