

## Crane Ledge Woods Coalition

### MAJOR UPDATE!

February 6, 2023

On Friday Feb. 3, 2023, **the BPDA issued an Adequacy Determination\*, DISAPPROVING the 990 American Legion development proposal as designed!**

**But MORE must be done to get to full conservation of Crane Ledge Woods.**

This decision is moving in the right direction. It is a first good step, and it means that there is a high bar that the developer needs to meet to win approval of their project. **However, this is a conditional decision** that sets out the requirements the developer, Lincoln Property Company must meet if they want the BPDA to approve this project. The BPDA's disapproval is an unprecedented action. which demonstrates that our collective action is effective. We thank all of you who were involved in contributing to this conditional disapproval after almost two years of education, organizing, and action.

**The decision we want is Full Conservation** - not an interim decision that gives the developer a road map to approval, should they decide to take it. Significant work remains to achieve full conservation of Crane Ledge Woods, but we are encouraged and grateful that Mayor Wu and her administration have taken this step.

CLWC has scheduled a community update virtual meeting at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, February 22, 2023. All are welcome to attend and participate - details to follow.

**As a conditional disapproval**, the developer now has the option of significantly modifying their proposal to address the issues spelled out in the Disapproval. The BPDA and Mayor Wu would then evaluate the modified project. The BPDA could then approve, approve with listed conditions, or again disapprove.

**To summarize:** the BPDA's February 3, 2023 disapproval is based on several key items including, significant loss of urban tree canopy, inadequate evaluation of site topography, required blasting, and impacts on flooding, air quality, heat island effect, neighborhood connectivity, environmental justice

issues, accessibility, community sentiment, and numerous questions around traffic, circulation, parking, and alternative transit modes.

**The BPDA analysis confirms for our Coalition that any development of this urban woodland site would have harmful impacts on our Environmental Justice neighborhoods which cannot be mitigated.** Furthermore, the developer has a disqualifying track record in its dealings with organized labor.

We strongly support creation of needed housing - and especially affordable housing, including home ownership - with such housing directed to suitable locations near public transit hubs on already paved over land. NOT through destruction of urban woodland in Environmental Justice neighborhoods.

Full conservation through a willing seller agreement is the best possible, “win-win” outcome for Crane Ledge Woods.

**\* Here is a link to the Adequacy Determination document**, which includes detailed reasoning, conditions, and all the public comments. City departments’ comments made reference to the concerns voiced by residents, who overwhelmingly are in support of conservation of the woods. They also reflect the City’s goals towards environmental and public health equity, and a planning process informed by the community.  
[https://www.dropbox.com/s/pnp5n9ggdsaafn2/2023-02-03\\_Adequacy%20Determination\\_990%20American%20Legion%20Highway.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/pnp5n9ggdsaafn2/2023-02-03_Adequacy%20Determination_990%20American%20Legion%20Highway.pdf?dl=0)

Thank you to all who submitted comments, communicated with elected officials, spread the word among neighbors, and engaged in this campaign in so many ways. Clearly the widespread, unified response opposing the project - and the developer’s consistent refusal to acknowledge and address the many fundamental project flaws, played a major role in this determination.

**Our work is not done - but this decision by BPDA is cause for celebration!**

**Thank you for the past and continuing support.**

Please forward this update to your networks.

Crane Ledge Woods Coalition (CLWC)

T: 617.690.7848

E: [craneledgeinfo@gmail.com](mailto:craneledgeinfo@gmail.com)

W: [www.savecraneledgewoods.org](http://www.savecraneledgewoods.org)

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/387131270089466/?ref=share>

Twitter: @CraneLedgeInfo

Instagram: @CraneLedgeInfo