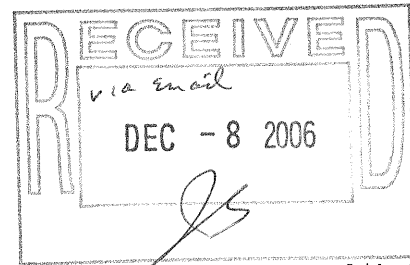


Szklut, Jay

From: J. Peter Hoerr [jhoerr@belmontpd.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2006 6:52 PM
To: Szklut, Jay
Cc: jhoerr@belmontpd.org
Subject: RE: ZBA and Acorn Park Drive



Jay,

It would naturally be a concern of the police department's if there was some likelihood that the development would be unreachable. It sounds as though Acorn Park Drive east of the development has flooded at least once. I do not know, however, if there is any history of the access road and/or Acorn Park Drive being flooded from Lake Street on in, which is the police department's major concern as that would be our route.

Lt. Peter Hoerr

-----Original Message-----

From: Szklut, Jay [mailto:jszklut@town.belmont.ma.us]
Sent: Tuesday, December 05, 2006 4:23 PM
To: jhoerr@belmontpd.org
Subject: FW: ZBA and Acorn Park Drive

Hi Peter,

Received the following communication and am just now getting around to forwarding it. Any comment from the Police Dept.

A little background - the Braintree case involved development on a land-locked parcel that had only one means of egress, a 40 ft wide strip of land with the housing built some 1400 feet from the entrance. It wound up being a 1400 ft cul-de-sac. The project was denied due to lack of adequate access for emergency vehicles. The denial was upheld on the grounds that if the main access was blocked due to a fallen tree, disabled vehicle, etc., there was no other means to access the property.

Thanks,
Jay

-----Original Message-----

From: Martha Moore [mailto:martha.moore@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2006 5:34 PM
To: Szklut, Jay
Subject: ZBA and Acorn Park Drive

After reading the Braintree HAC decision, I wondered if the ZBA has thoroughly considered the safety of Acorn Park Drive in the event of another serious flood event. Is it possible that flooding could block access to the housing for emergency equipment, or is that very unlikely? Entry from the end near the T station would be difficult since the ramp is one way.

I asked Darrell King, who works in Discovery Park, about this and he sent me the following comment:

Acorn (Discovery) Park has an entry from both ends, though the far end (Bulfinch) exits only onto the ramp which goes to the Alewife T station. To get onto Route 2 West one must go a fair distance and turn around at a rotary (of sorts). There is a low spot on the road (Acorn Park Drive) about half way between the Bulfinch buildings and O'Neill's site, and it does flood easily. All of the Bulfinch end floods easily; as seen in the 1996 photos, where some of it is under almost 3 feet of water. It is interesting to note that the Smithsonian parking lot seems to be at a slightly higher elevation (18-24") than the adjacent (old) Bulfinch parking lot.

Note that much of Alewife Station was under water in 1996, so being on the ramp there may not take one out.

Have the fire dept and police signed off on the latest iteration of the plans?

Thanks Jay. Happy Thanksgiving to you too!

Martha