

June 25, 2015

Mr. Ian M. Comerford, Chairman
City of New Bedford - Zoning Board of Appeals
133 William Street, Room 303
New Bedford, MA 02740

PLANNING
JUN 25 2015
DEPARTMENT

Dear Mr. Comerford,

I write to you today (Thursday, June 25th, 2015) as an abutter in response to an invitation to be present by the City of New Bedford Zoning Board of Appeals regarding Case Number 4187; A Petition proposing to operate an addiction treatment business as plans filed, which will require a Special Permit under Chapter 9 Comprehensive Zoning Section 2400 (Non-conforming Uses and Structures), 2410 (Applicability), 2420-2422 (Non-conforming Uses), 2430-2432 (Non-conforming structures, other Single and Two family Structures), and 5300-5330 & 5360-5390 (Special Permits).

I respectfully request to be recorded in opposition to the petition referenced in Case Number 4187 and wish to speak at the meeting in opposition to said petition. The use requested by the petitioner would constitute a significant change of use that would create, if approved, a negative impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

There are already significant parking problems in the surrounding neighborhood and the property located at 67-69 Brigham Street, Assessor's Map 39 Lot 255 in a Residential-B Zoned District, simply does not have enough on, or off, street parking available for the requested use. According to the petition for special permit, the proposed number of employees is 3. Including the 2 tenants in the apartments above the proposed site would require more parking spaces than the proposed premises could support.

According to the petition for special permit, the proposed number of customers per day is 20-25. The proposed hours of operation are 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The proposed hours for deliveries are 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. This essentially means that the proposed hours of operation are 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM. I am extremely concerned about the requested number of sessions, the hours of operation, the increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow in the neighborhood.

Allowing an addiction treatment business at the proposed location will create adverse effects to the character of the neighborhood; have a negative impact on the natural and social environment, traffic flow, public safety and parking. The characteristics of the site and of the proposal use for the site are completely incompatible. Further, the change of use to allow the operation of an addiction treatment business in this residential zoned district is completely inappropriate. The operation of an addiction treatment business would be better suited if located in a more appropriately, business or industrial, zoned district such as the present locations of other addiction treatment facilities located on Gifford Street or North Front Street.

Again, the adverse effects of the proposed use by far outweigh the benefit to the City and to the neighborhood. Therefore I respectfully request that the Board deny the permit on the grounds that approving the permit would detrimentally impact the immediate and surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

James F. Costa



13 Ryan Street

New Bedford, Massachusetts