

**From:** [Robin Wendler](#)  
**To:** [Karen Kelleher](#)  
**Subject:** Stow Acres proposed maintenance building  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 12:34:09 PM

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I am writing with concern about proposed developments at Stow Acres.

Have any renderings been offered of the visual impact from different vantage points of the building proposed in the petition for a zoning exception? The current parking lot, even when full during golf season, is low to the ground and unobtrusive. The construction of an 18' tall, 5,000 square-foot sheet metal building in that location would radically alter the character of one of the most iconic and historic places in Stow, not just during the hours golf is played but 24/7, 365 days a year.

The cell phone tower proposal is another concern. Based on the RF Report Proposed Wireless Facility Impact from May 2022, it is not clear that the proposed location provides ideal coverage for the Verizon dead zone, only that there are "no suitable existing structures" in the site search area. It does not address whether other sites without existing structures were considered and their relative impacts on coverage. The photo simulations of the proposed cell tower's visual impact were all based on fully leafed-out trees blocking the view, whereas those trees are leafless over six months of the year. A fair assessment would have included both, and the fact that it does not reflect poorly on the tower plan.

Beyond the proposed maintenance building and cell tower, what is the larger vision for development? Will piecemeal requests for zoning exceptions by Stow Acres raise fewer concerns and be easier to pass individually than all the components would be if presented together? This tiny country neighborhood will already be absorbing 189 new residential units, with attendant traffic, noise, and light pollution, for the benefit of the entire town. Stow Acres' development plans need to be sensitive to the character of the neighborhood and to the desirability of the new housing planned across the street. That includes locating the new maintenance building further out of the line of sight from neighborhood streets. I appeal to the board to reject the building proposal.

Sincerely,  
Robin Wendler