

To the Newton City Council:

Sometimes it is easy to forget that our little community of Newton is actually a city of nearly 90,000 people. We are fortunate to have a strong sense of community, outstanding schools, great parks and amenities and a short drive to Boston; but a city of our size should expect the occasional line of traffic at a red light.

As we change and grow, I hope that we can think creatively about how to manage traffic issues. A knee-jerk opposition to a larger project proposal because of feared traffic impacts is not the answer. Instead, we should be encouraging developers to think creatively about how to connect their projects to transit, reward projects that are located near transit and cut down on trips during high volume commuting times and recognize that good projects near transit may actually support and increase future state investments in infrastructure in our City.

Traffic isn't a reason to say no to development like Northland's proposal in Newton Upper Falls, though a lack of thoughtful planning for how to manage the issue might be. I believe they have done that thoughtful planning.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph De Luca', written in a cursive style.

Joseph De Luca
933 Walnut St.