



May 7, 2019

Peter J. Pitsas, P.E.  
Underwood Engineers, Inc.  
99 North state Street  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mr. Pitsas,

Thank you for your letter seeking the input of the Conway Public Library Board of Trustees regarding any concerns or possible impacts related to the Main Street infrastructure improvements in Conway, New Hampshire.

After seeking the expert opinion of the architectural historian with whom we worked in developing our National Historic Registry application, the Board met to deliberate on this matter on Friday, May 3. It is the position of the board that any plan that takes library grounds inherently represents an adverse impact to the library. We insist that all alternatives be explored and ruled not feasible prior to considering any such plan.

We further urge that any plan selected seeks to minimize any adverse impacts on the library property's historic integrity. We enclose the opinion of our expert adviser on the plan presented by Paul DegliAngeli at the April 30 meeting of the Conway Board of Selectmen, which notes the following adverse impacts:

- Reduction of the library's setback from the road
- Alteration of the library's siting relative to the road
- Alteration of the library's semi-circular driveway
- Negative impact on the library's setting for pedestrians trying to access and/or view the library

The Board of Trustees understands the importance of the Main Street project and supports the effort to decrease traffic congestion in Conway village. However, we also note that the Conway Public Library is the most architecturally significant buildings in our entire region. We hope that an alternative plan can be found that meets the project's worthy goals while preserving the historic integrity of the library property and the positive experience of those coming to view and visit it.

Sincerely,

Peter Innes  
Chair, Board of Trustees, Conway Public Library

Encl.

cc: David Weathers, Chair, Board of Selectmen, Town of Conway  
Tom Holmes, Town Manager, Town of Conway  
Jillian Edelmann, Cultural Resources Manager, NH Department of Transportation