

*Town of Chelmsford
Massachusetts 01824*

Fire Headquarters
50 Billerica Road
Gary Ryan
Chief of Department



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March 17, 2026

Chelmsford Select Board
50 Billerica Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824

Re: 1 Smith Street-Ch. 40B Project Eligibility

Dear Members of the Select Board,

The Chelmsford Fire Department has reviewed the proposed project at 1 Smith Street and offers the following fire protection and life safety requirements. The applicant shall submit revised plans addressing each of the items outlined below to the satisfaction of this department.

Plans shall include complete details of the proposed water supply, including the location of all existing and proposed fire hydrants. A current hydrant pressure and flow test shall be conducted at a location proximate to the site. The results of the test, along with all supporting calculations, shall be submitted to the Chelmsford Fire Department for review and approval.

The Chelmsford Fire Department requires:

- A fire hydrant located within sixty (60) feet of the Fire Department Connection (FDC); and
- A fire hydrant located within five hundred (500) feet of all points on the exterior of the building to support manual firefighting operations.

All hydrants and fire protection equipment shall remain unobstructed at all times and shall not be impeded by landscaping, vehicles, or other obstructions. A minimum clearance of sixty (60) inches shall be maintained to the steamer connection and forty-eight (48) inches to all other hydrant connections.

A fire apparatus access plan shall be submitted demonstrating adequate access for emergency vehicles. Fire apparatus access shall be provided either around the building or by means of an acceptable turnaround located at the end of the parking area. Sloped, mountable curbing shall be utilized within the parking lot to facilitate emergency vehicle maneuverability, as approved by the Chelmsford Fire Department.

"SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES"

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Designated snow storage areas shall be identified on the plans and shall not obstruct or impede fire access roads or required turnaround areas.

All building exits shall be provided with sidewalks that allow a continuous, unobstructed path of travel leading to a public way. The proposed location of all dumpsters shall be clearly indicated on the site plans.

An automatic sprinkler system designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13, and a fire alarm system designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 72, shall be required. All fire protection systems shall be monitored by a UL-approved central station monitoring service.

All systems and components shall comply with the Massachusetts State Building Code and the requirements of the Chelmsford Fire Department. The location of all fire safety equipment shall be subject to the approval of this department.

The applicant is further advised that Emergency Responder Radio Communication (ERRC) testing will be required. Should testing reveal inadequate radio coverage, the installation of a Bidirectional Amplifier (BDA) system shall be required in accordance with Chelmsford Fire Department ERRC regulations.

I respectfully request that the Select Board make this letter part of its approval process.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Ryan-Fire Chief