

Kaitlin Wright Esposito

From: City Council
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 8:16 AM
To: Tim Jordan; Tim Jordan
Cc: Kaitlin Wright Esposito
Subject: FW: Opposition to the proposed Hilldale Ave Battery Farm site

Lori A. Robertson
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Haverhill City Council
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SEP 15 AM 8:41
HAVCITYCLERK

From: PAMELA CARR <pcarr12@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 6:12 PM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@haverhillma.gov>
Subject: Opposition to the proposed Hilldale Ave Battery Farm site

Warning! External Email. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on any links.

Dear City Council President Jordan and members of the City Council,

On August 31st, I sent the below email to Mr. McGonagle expressing my concerns with the proposed location of upper Hilldale Ave for placement of a Battery Farm. I have not heard back from Mr. McGonagle, so I am forwarding this email to you and the other council members to state that I am strongly opposed to the expansion of the proposed BESS Zoning Overlay District in the Upper Hilldale Ave area.

Thank you for your time and dedication to the residents of Haverhill.

I am requesting that my opposition to this project be noted in the minutes of the September 15th City Council meeting minutes.

Regards,

Pamela J Carr
60 Atlanta Street
Haverhill, MA 01832

----- Original Message -----

From: PAMELA CARR <pcarr12@comcast.net>

To: "mmcgonagle@haverhillma.gov" <mmcgonagle@haverhillma.gov>

Date: 08/31/2026 8:43 PM EDT

Subject: Proposed Hilldale Ave Battery Farm site

Hi Mike,

My name is Pam Carr, 60 Atlanta Street. I have questions and concerns that at last week's council meeting it was determined that Hilldale Ave would be the preferred place to put a Battery Farm.

My first question is, why does Haverhill need to allow a Battery Farm in our city? Currently, I am very opposed to the idea of allowing a Battery Farm in Haverhill, never mind on upper Hilldale. How was it determined that Hilldale Ave ranked the highest?

This neighborhood already has to deal with all the trucks from the NETTS business, the 18 wheel tractor trailer trucks that are stored from renting the spaces that were just created on upper Hilldale, along with the Republic Waste and Garbage Disposal Service trucks. Our roads in this area are taking a beating. They have recently been working on the Hilldale bridge decking that goes over 495, which needed to be repaired for some time. I'm sure the heavy truck traffic contributed to the road degradation. How much more does this neighborhood have to endure?

What is the recommendation from the Fire Chief for upper Hilldale? He was in favor of a different location. Does Haverhill have the manpower or equipment to handle a battery fire if that should occur? What chemicals would the residents in this area be exposed to if there was a fire? I know little about battery fires, except that they are difficult to extinguish. My knowledge is only from incidents that I have read about regarding electric vehicle fires, laptop battery fires, hover board battery fires and recently electric scooters. These are small batteries, but difficult to extinguish. I would think the batteries at a battery farm are larger and definitely more numerous in a confined space and would take a long time to extinguish, all the while emitting hazardous smoke.

Where on Hilldale are they proposing to allow this Battery Farm. If it's on the same side as the NETTS business, how far would it be from Little River? Are there any setbacks to prevent pollution if a catastrophe should occur? If it's on the opposite side, is the land area any part of wetlands? From the newspaper article, there isn't enough acreage in this area. Why would you or the councilors agree to allow this if there wasn't the required amount of space? Would there need to be an override?

What about the impact this could have on Syrbny Farm? Councilor Dan Diodati opposed having it in the Ward 2 area because of the agricultural land. (I am very familiar with Ward Hill, because that is where I grew up) Well, Syrbny Farms would fall into that same category. Ward 3 Councilor Devan M. Ferreira also concurred that Hilldale would be the best location. Do either of these councilors understand what we have been dealing with in this area? Were you present at this meeting, and did you voice any opposition?

I not only have to deal with the traffic issues these tractor trailer trucks cause during all hours of the day, but I also deal with police, ambulance and fire coming to my neighborhood on a fairly frequent basis, when they get a call of someone 'wandering', which I believe they are coming from the business located at the end of Cogswell Street. I no longer feel safe letting my grandson play in the backyard because I never know when there will be a call for assistance with someone 'wandering' in the neighborhood.

I have lived in this neighborhood 49 years. I love this community, but it now seems like this part of the city is bearing the brunt of many disruptive businesses. I've never complained, and have been dealing with the additional traffic for many years, and the 'wanderers' for over a year. Now, learning that I may have a 14+ acre battery farm in my back yard is more than I want to think about.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from you to help me understand why you and your fellow councilors think that the upper Hilldale Ave area is the best place to allow a Battery Farm as opposed to any of the other locations that were suggested.

My cell number is 978-697-2284, or you can reach me at this email address.

Sincerely,

Pam Carr