

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REPORT TO TOWN BOARD
July 28, 2025

We are disappointed to report that the Marlboro Central School District has rejected the proposal for a cost free EV fast charging station on school property.

Our month's work centered on preparing and delivering comments to the Planning Board in regards to environmental questions raised by the Environmental Assessment Form from the Orchards on Hudson project. Our comments were delivered to a room filled with Marlborough citizens on Monday, July 21, 2025. The verbalized concerns of the CAC, which had already been presented in written form, are still not publicly answered, namely: Did the Department of Conservation and the Department of Transportation submit written responses to issues raised by the CAC. Closing the Public Hearing means that neither the CAC nor private citizens will have their questions answered.

For a third time, the CAC suggests that for projects of this magnitude there should be an opportunity for the public to hear from developers at the onset of the process. Their ideas and interests could assist the developer as they would learn of common concerns before expending time and money in project proposals. When the public is given welcoming ears, factual information, honest replies, and full explanations of proposed developments, they are more reassured that such a project will be of benefit to the Town. This was echoed by Mr. Gerentine and Mr. DeMarco in their public comments. As they suggested, public buy-in would be much easier if citizens were allowed to present ideas and concerns prior to the approach of final approval. Perhaps our words magnified by theirs will find your support.

Respectfully submitted,

Mici Simonofsky
cc: Planning Board members