



Littleton Independent

Vol. 38 — No. 14

48 Pages — 3 Sections

Thursday, March 31, 1988

Price 35¢ (GST)
Classification 35¢ (GST)

Thirty Five Cents



A model of proposed Littleton Corporate Common.

Corporate Center designs presented

By Thomas Bell

Ian Gillespie carted in six color drawings, a foot-and-a-half of documents, a slide projector, and a glass-encased model into Monday's Planning Board meeting.

Planners sat silently as Gillespie gave them a show.

The official name of the development is Littleton Corporate Common, and Gillespie says its design is based on a New England village.

It could be a town all itself. The daytime population of the proposed six buildings will be 2,200 to 2,500 people, about a third of the present population of Littleton.

Gillespie mixes the old with the new at this 640,000 square foot "master-planned business community." A state-of-the-art sewage treatment plant will be

encased in a re-creation of an old New England barn. Overhead a helicopter will ferry in executives from Logan Airport to a proposed heliport.

At the top of the hill a "European style courtyard" will be open to the public. In the middle of the courtyard Gillespie proposes a group of boulders that will sprout a spray of mist. The mist will create a "permanent rainbow effect."

The design also calls for reflecting pools, a water trough, and a birch orchard.

Gillespie says he has spent a half million dollars on engineering and architectural fees on the project so far.

"We studied it intensely," said Gillespie after the Planning Board meeting during an interview while he tried to fit his five-foot model into his trunk.

"We spent a lot of money to study traffic and public safety issues."

The official business of the meeting was an informal site plan discussion on how the planners will conduct the site plan review and special permit review processes.

Gillespie has made some minor changes in the design and layout of the roads since the planners last saw the proposal.

Gillespie needs special permits from the Planning Board to assure them he will not have toxic waste stored at the site and that the groundwater around the site will be properly monitored.

Planners said they will not be able to schedule time for a public hearing for the site plan or special permits until May.