

Evan Lehrer

From: Marjorie <mclapprood@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Evan Lehrer; jfulone@comcast.net; Evan Lehrer
Cc: John J. Cotton; Andrew Gottlieb; Thomas F. OHara; Carol A. Sherman; David W. Weeden; Rodney C. Collins; letters@capecodonline.com; withrow@capenews.net
Subject: Public Comment: Mashpee Commons Development

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To: Members of the Mashpee Planning Board, Select Board and Town Manager
From: Marjorie Clapprood, Bright Coves, New Seabury
RE: Tonight's vote on Mashpee Commons Development Agreement
Date: June 2, 2021

Greetings all:

I'm writing to OBJECT to any vote being taken at tonight's Planning Board meeting regarding the Mashpee Commons Development Agreement until citizens - and indeed the Town - has the protections, information and proper process in place for such an important and far-reaching project. I also request that this be read into the public record when taking public commentary tonight on this issue.

Like so many other citizens, I've been following the process of this plan and feel all the good work that has gone into the years of planning are in jeopardy if, at the last minute, you allow this project to move forward in disregard to agreed-upon processes that are established specifically for the protection of our citizens, our environment, our clean air and waters, our tax burden and other financial concerns with no rationale other than letting the developers have free reign moving forward. Why else would we allow them to change our By-laws to allow them to circumvent existing protections - for the next 20 years? 25? with no provision for recourse by the Town of Mashpee? If I've read this wrong, I welcome a correction, but from what I've learned, the developers are being allowed to actually write the verbiage for this By-law change? If so, this is contrary to everything we stand for as a democracy - open meeting and open bid laws, environmental protection, citizen involvement in major decision-making, transparency - and so much more that we maintain control over by DESIGN, especially in the face of moving forward with such a huge project that will impact literally every segment of our community.

As a reasonable taxpayer and voter, I am both supportive and enthusiastic about smart, measured development and embrace new projects that serve our people well; but not at the expense of due process. If its a good project, it will gain approval along the way on its merits, adhering to full disclosure standards every step of the way. We made these regulations and rules for a reason: to prevent a run-away project from trampling on the rights of all to inspect, ask questions, offer opinions and make decisions in an orderly fashion. That requires that you consider all of these factors and do not move forward with this project until there is an official Development Agreement between the town and the developers, with full disclosure to the residents of Mashpee, and with no changes to the zoning by-laws that have not gained approval in the proper process. In no instance should the developers be given the authority or right to create the language for any by-law change/ edit or amendment.

I hope to see your action tonight uphold all of this and so much more, and appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Clapprood
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