

Evan Lehrer

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Sent: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 4:26 PM
To: Evan Lehrer
Subject: Mashpee Housing Development

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To the Mashpee Planning Board,

I am writing this "letter" (email) in support of the commercial/residential Development Plan for Mashpee Commons that is the subject of the Planning Board meeting on June 2, 2021.

As I'm sure many are aware, Cape Cod is in the midst of a housing crisis that has consistently gotten worse over the years, and that the pandemic has laid bare. For years it has been exceedingly difficult to access rentals or homes for homeownership and this is something that natives have been aware of and speaking about for years.

The pandemic acutely exacerbated the housing crisis and laid bare what we all knew. It is past that me for action. We need every available solution on the table for Cape Codders, especially if they have any hope to continue their lives where many, including my husband and son, were born and raised.

Adding this volume of housing on Cape Cod would have extraordinary meaning. A place for working families and people, an increase in the tax base for Mashpee (yes, renters contribute to a local economy's tax base as well), an increase in small/local business customers, decreased stress on the housing crisis, and an opportunity for transformative economic development.

At the moment, we are seeing people being pushed off Cape Cod, and at minimum seriously exploring buying/renting off Cape. People considering adoption are delaying doing so because of questions surrounding the stability of rentals, jobs openings are being left vacant due to housing shortages... it's even affecting staffing at Cape Cods hospitals.

Looking at this development offers hope for the future, excitement at the possibility of an influx of businesses and recreational activities.

I hope the planning board considers this during the development of this proposal and is able to move things along efficiently!

Meaghan Mort