



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT
AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST
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April 2, 2015

William E. Reyelt, Principal Planner
Smart Growth Programs
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Housing & Community Development
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Mr. Reyelt:

As Chair of the Newburyport Affordable Housing Trust, I would like to express the Trust's support of the City's proposed Smart Growth Village District (SGVD). The City of Newburyport has an obligation to ensure that its housing stock remains affordable to the entire community, including its young families and senior population. The adoption of a 40R district is one way in which to fulfill this obligation.

Newburyport's Housing Production Plan highlighted both the City's increasing housing costs and the trend of converting rental housing into condominiums thereby greatly reducing the housing stock available for working individuals and families. The housing development within the proposed district will help the City address these disturbing trends through the incorporation of affordable rental opportunities within the mixed-use structures. Equally important, the affordable units created through the provisions of the SGVD will help the City fulfill its obligation to offer at least 10% of its housing stock as affordable to those individuals and families with a moderate income.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judy Tymon".

Judy Tymon, Chair