

Janet Compagna  
26 Whistler Lane  
Dennis, MA. 02639

Elizabeth Sullivan  
Town Administrator  
Town of Dennis  
685 Route 134  
South Dennis, MA. 02260  
esullivan@town.dennis.ma.us

August 24,2023

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the Municipal Engagement Initiative and the lack of transparency in notifying the residents of Dennis. I would like this letter to be read and be made part of the official record for both the DMAHT Committee and Planning Board.

Specifically, I would like to know:

- Why this very important town issue was not listed in the Administrator's Report of August 22, 2023 in the News Section on the Town Website?
- Also, how is a resident supposed to know that "Municipal Engagement Initiative" actually means a major zoning change to allow the building of a multi-family housing project that will increase the Town's population by 27% to 40%?
- For an issue this important why weren't all residents notified of the public hearing on Monday, August 28, 2023 with a mass mailing, radio and newspaper notices?
- The Lowes' project was denied due to increased traffic concerns, nitrogen contributions to the watershed & negative impact on the immediate area. Why would the Town ever approve of this project which will present even greater traffic concerns, greater nitrogen contributions to the watershed, have a larger impact on the immediate area and in addition also negatively impact our police, fire, school and other resources. What changed to make this a better decision now, than then?
- Why has there not been an independent study conducted to determine the potential impact of the positive and negative consequences of this project? Even if the Town was not obligated, by state and local regulations, do you not owe this level of scrutiny to the residents that you represent?

I wholeheartedly support the need to provide additional affordable housing in our town. What I do not support is the attempt to force us to also increase our residential housing footprint in order to accomplish it.

It appears that we are being told that in order to provide a certain amount of affordable housing units we must allow developers to build additional residential units. A development of this magnitude in our town will cause a major traffic, infrastructure and environmental impact on our community as a whole. Again, why aren't these issues being independently studied first?

It seems that someone or many people are really profiting here at our expense and at the expense of the Town of Dennis. We stand to lose the culture of our town, town resources, along with increased taxes.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns. I urge town leadership to consider these aspects and to engage in thorough planning, consultation and transparency prior to proceeding with this project.

Sincerely,

Janet Compagna