

Trianovich, Amanda

Subject: FW: In support of eliminating cap on multi family housing

From: Stacie Lewis <stacielew@icloud.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 10, 2020 10:15 AM

To: Mall, Louis <loumall@optonline.net>

Cc: Planning and Zoning <PANDZ@westportct.gov>; Strauss, Patricia <PSTRAUSS@westportct.gov>; Heller, Velma E. <vheller@westportct.gov>

Subject: Re: In support of eliminating cap on multi family housing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Town of Westport's email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Lou,
Thank you so much for your response.

My intention was certainly not meant to be threatening. I sent that email with those particular words, because I personally read the statement as representing a matter of importance in a non-hostile way. That being said, as a person who is continually trying to re-educate herself, I understand that though my intention was heartfelt and passionate, the way it was received felt differently. And for that, I take ownership.

The notes I received in return from members of the RTM were, in my opinion, rude, inconsiderate, and unbecoming. Although I chose to use a template, which is an extremely common practice, it still doesn't negate the fact that I agree with the sentiments expressed... I am in support of eliminating the cap on multi family housing. I did sign my name on the letter, and I am clearly reachable by email. I appreciate that you all volunteer your time and energy as RTM members. As I understand, the role of RTM is to listen and the community's job is to weigh in despite any differences. If I personally had emailed you continually and repeatedly in an overtly threatening fashion, then yes, perhaps I warranted a tough response.

As a person who teaches empathy, kindness, diversity and community building to young children, I appreciate taking time to consider these thoughts.

Kindly,
Stacie

On Oct 1, 2020, at 2:09 PM, Lou Mall <Loumall@optonline.net> wrote:

Stacie-

Who is westportforward.com? Your letter is boilerplate from that website. I volunteer my time on the RTM, as do my colleagues. The next local election is November, 2021. I sign my name and my address and phone number are public information. I refuse to be bullied by anonymous sources.

Sincerely,

Louis M. Mall
RTM D2

On Oct 1, 2020, at 10:20 AM, Stacie Lewis <stacielew@icloud.com> wrote:

Dear RTM members,

I'm writing to support the Westport Planning and Zoning Commission's proposed text amendment to eliminate the cap on multifamily housing, which currently limits the total number of multifamily units in Westport to 10% of total town dwellings, many of which are age restricted and don't allow families. The current multifamily cap artificially limits the creation of a diversity of housing types in Westport.

Our town deserves the opportunity to shine as a place that represents a fully diverse people, inclusive of color, economic status, and gender identity to name a few.

If you in any way work against this text amendment - including petitioning to overturn this text amendment or voting to overturn this text amendment -, I will not vote for your re-election, and will discourage my fellow community members from voting for you as well. Housing access matters deeply to me. Please stand behind the Westport Planning & Zoning Commission as they work to make our town a more welcoming community for all people.

I look forward to your support for this text amendment, thank you for your time..
-Stacie Shamie