

We are writing regarding amendments to the 8-30g affordable housing law. There has been an influx of 8-30g applications and approvals in our neighborhood. In a small radius of primarily single family homes we have had 6 applications in the past year and a half. The total number of units is in excess of 70 units. This almost doubles the amount of residents in a very small residential area.

Our town sewer system has exceeded its permit, while the town has been waiting for new guidelines. Much of our infrastructure is over 100 years old consisting of compromised clay piping. Continuing to add to this failing infrastructure will put a burden on all of our residents. We urge you to look at all of the documentation and testimony submitted at the public hearings for all of these projects. You will find thoughtful and valid issues that have fallen on deaf ears because of this law. Many people have expressed concern and frustration, and many more have lost faith in our system. Those that take the time to speak up are faced with the fear of retaliation. Attached is the recent judgment involving a concerned citizen expressing his opinion. As a result he was sued by a developer and faced with financial hardship. It is encouraging that his suite was baseless, but the process in itself will serve to silent others. If 8-30g was meant to introduce affordable housing into the fabric of an existing neighborhood it has failed. The cost of these affordable rentals are comparable to many available market rentals.

We look forward to seeing a positive change with regard to affordable housing and are truly appreciative that there will be a thoughtful and thorough review of this flawed legislature.

Thank You,
Kim and Bill Stonebridge