

February 28, 2016

To The Housing Commission:

Re: Proposal HB 5363

I am not against 8-30g and the purpose of providing affordable housing to lower income families in CT. I am against developers using this to have carte blanche in putting high density housing anywhere they chose with complete disregard of current zoning regulations and height restrictions. The reason why Brookfield is up in arms is that the current law will allow a 7 story building to be built without any input from the townspeople. The negative impact of this structure will include the safety of our volunteer fire personnel. I have attended numerous hearings regarding the cost to train our volunteer fire department to fight fires in such a large structure. I do not believe it was the intention of 8-30g to have towns incur such a huge financial and personnel burden, whereas our town maybe required to go to a paid fire department for the benefit of a single developer.

This proposed 7 story structure is so out of character for the economic development for the four corners area, a project the town has been working on for the past 20 years. The town has spent considerable money on this development plan which this structure would completely negate. I am asking the Housing Committee do anything in your power to not allow a 7 story structure to be forced down the throats of the townspeople of Brookfield. At all of the public hearings I have attended, not a single person has spoken in favor of this project. I have also listened to people talk about the stress and health that this project would effect if allowed to go through.

I am in favor of Steve Harding's proposed HB 5363 and hoping you will approve it. I am also hoping that the housing committee will seriously look at 8-30g and realize that this statute has some flaws in it at the detriment of individual small towns and the volunteer fire departments protecting them. I look forward to being kept abreast of all hearings, agreements and decisions regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

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