

TO: The Planning and Development Committee:

I just became aware this morning of the public hearing held on March 15 (today) and I am extremely sorry I missed it. I am taking the time now to send you of my vote and the vote from the Concerned Citizens Group.

The Concerned Citizens Group represents over 300 neighbors on the Northend of Stratford. We vote "No" to State-mandated Zoning. We vote "yes" to maintaining local control and municipal home rule.

Bill Numbers:

HB 6107

HB 6611

HB 6612

HB 6613

SB 1024

SB 1026

SB 1027

Please note: The Concerned Citizens Group has been protecting open space in this quiet community from a vindictive developer that is costing the town and our good neighbors hundreds of dollars as he submits applications for high-density developments on small parcels of land with wetlands on part of these properties. The open spaces he threatens to develop are near a beautiful town forest with over 300 acres of trails and a park that is a habitat for hundreds of animals. The developer continues to appeal all denials and the town and our organization continues to pay for legal fees to prevent the destruction this developer plans just to put money in his pocket with no concern for safety of the residents or the nature in this area.

The applications are often missing facts or have huge retaining walls. We have a qualified engineer pro bono that has documented that they will fall. He looks at every application and points out to town officials the missing facts and any incorrect information provided on these applications and the town officials are thankful for him.

We believe: Unique needs and geography of each community (including cities, suburbs, and rural areas) must be considered.

The town has plenty of low cost public housing and does not need apartments, particularly in this most natural environment in the northend. There are no sidewalks, most residents are using septic and well systems, there is no public transportation to this community, no shops nearby or other related amenities easily accessible.

Please continue to allow individual town commissions to make decisions regarding development in order to protect the tax payers and the communities that have long been established for houses on one acre of land and the animals that are losing their habitats due to over development.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Meral*

*Meral Prewitt*

*President Sterling Ski Club*

*Director Concerned Citizens Group of Stratford, Inc.*

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