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Date: Sun, 3 Jan 2021 23:57:01 -0500  
Subject: Testimony for ARB meeting Jan. 4, 2021

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Jan 4, 2021

Testimony for Arlington Redevelopment Board re Patti Miettinen's proposal and presentation

Dear Chairperson Zseembery and Members of the Board,

Patti Miettinen's proposal is extremely wasteful and could be environmentally damaging and unnecessary. For this reason I am presenting Testimony regarding:

Agenda Item 2 of the meeting on Jan 4 ARB.

Potential Zoning Bylaw amendments for 2021 Annual Town Meeting...Discussion about a proposal for energy efficient homes... Pasi Miettinen will be provided time to discuss a proposed warrant article regarding energy efficient homes.

Proposed Zoning Bylaw Change for Spring 2021 Town Meeting 12-22-20 Basis in Arlington's Clean Energy Future Committee's Net Zero Roadmap: Net Zero Buildings measure NZB3: "Change zoning or other bylaws that hinder the renovation or construction of net zero energy capable homes. Create incentives to encourage renovation and new construction projects to result in net zero energy capable buildings."

Testimony criticizing this matter presents the following remarks about Miettinen's assertions from one of my sons who is an engineer and has specialized in solar systems, energy conservation and conversion and electric vehicle technology and has international experience:

"As you guessed, this is total garbage, of course old buildings with their basements can be made very energy efficient. Our house and the museum are an 1818 and 1960 building example. Both had different challenges but I can guarantee the carbon footprint or rehabbing an existing building and getting it to net zero energy is less than removing and replacing an entire building. It's typically just a lot easier and more profitable for contractors who don't think reduce, reuse and recycle to think this way, they would rather knock down and start from a blank slate. This is an extremely wasteful way forward as we look to upgrade 80% of our building stock to high efficiency, Energy Star or better and ideally net zero energy."

James

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James Worden  
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Yours truly,  
Patricia B. Worden  
Town Meeting Member, pct 8

Please kindly include this communication in the official records of the meeting.