

**From:** Jennifer Lewis <jennifer\_lewisforbes@yahoo.com>

**Date:** March 14, 2021 at 4:39:03 PM EDT

**To:** Jenny Raitt <JRaitt@town.arlington.ma.us>, Erin Zwirko <EZwirko@town.arlington.ma.us>, ebenson@town.arlington.ma.us, KLau@town.arlington.ma.us, MTintocalis@town.arlington.ma.us, dwatson@town.arlington.ma.us, rzsembery@town.arlington.ma.us

**Subject:** Support for Accessory Dwelling Units

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Town of Arlington's email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the REAL sender (whose email address in the From: line in "< >" brackets) and you know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the Arlington Redevelopment Board-

I am writing to express my support for Arlington to adopt Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) by adopting Article 43. I have read through the motion, an ADU fact sheet and FAQs. I believe that embracing ADUs and streamlining them into our zoning laws in a proactive and thoughtful manner creates one more tool to help Arlington residents remain in their homes, age in place and fight overwhelming gentrification.

I know there is fear about ADUs subverting our zoning laws leading to overcrowding, environmental impact, unsafe structures, and increasing condos and AirBnB rentals. The way this proposal is written, along with our existing local ordinances, none of these can really occur.

After living in Arlington for sixteen years, we've heard whispers of "illegal" apartments for aging family members or adult children over the years. There's no reason for these to be hidden away; bring them into the open, be proactive in stream lining them into our zoning process to assist our friends and neighbors. ADUs alone will not solve our affordability problem but ADUs can be an additional strategy to keep Arlington as economically diverse as possible.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lewis-Forbes  
71 Mary Street  
Arlington, MA