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Date: 02/11/2019 02:26 PM
Subject: Housing Rental Assistance

MEMORANDUM

Date: 2-10-19

To: Members of the Arlington Redevelopment Board and Jennifer Raitt

From: Patricia B. Worden, Town Meeting Member, Pct 8

Many incidences of unacceptable housing cost burdens are occurring among low income recipients of certain types of subsidized housing in which rental subsidies are provided as a percentage of the area median income (AMI) which is increasing too quickly for these rents to be affordable for them. It has come to my attention that the ARB and Planning Department have nothing in this year's ATM warrant to alleviate this situation by presenting an appropriate amendment to the affordable housing bylaw (Section 8.2 of the Arlington Zoning Bylaw). None of the ARB's 2019 zoning proposals help affordability and some would greatly damage it.

This is an unacceptable situation and I hereby request that you plan to craft a ZBL amendment for the first possible opportunity at a future Town Meeting or Special Town Meeting. To be successful such an amendment would have to come from you due to your many staff and resources to deal with such an initiative and your discouragement of Arlington residents' participation in the TM zoning process. The rent required from eligible tenants should be related to a fixed entity – or perhaps indexed to an appropriate function of the AMI designed to avoid rents rising too rapidly for those with low income.