

From: Jennifer Litowski
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 1:15 PM
To: Claire Ricker
Subject: Support the MBTA-C working group proposal

Dear Arlington Redevelopment Board,

I am writing to express my support for the MBTA Communities Working Group's proposal, as described in last week's report. Over the past year, I have been impressed by the Working Group's commitment to gathering public input and balancing community values such as increasing affordable housing, sustainability and supporting our local businesses. I think this plan accomplishes this.

My family and I moved to Arlington 8 years ago for the great schools, access to the employment, cultural and recreational opportunities of the region...and the fact that we could find a home that we could afford. Since then, this last reason has moved out of reach for more and more people. New coworkers have to move farther and farther away, trying to cope with unsustainable commutes. Neighbors who need to downsize have not found smaller, more affordable options and so have moved away from their friends and community to find a place they can live. It's a small reflection of the struggles faced by so many people in Massachusetts.

The proposed zoning changes are one key piece in solving the housing crisis. I strongly encourage the ARB to support the plan as written, to make a meaningful change in housing availability.

Regards,
Jennifer Litowski