



COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUILDING

PLANNING

ZONING

CONSERVATION

MEMORANDUM

To: Linda Wollschlager, Chair, Finance Committee
Paul R. Joseph, Chair, Select Board, Economic Development Committee
Frank Foss, Moderator, Town Meeting

From: Scott Laughlin, Chair, Economic Development Committee

Date: 13 October 2022

RE: Fall Annual Town Meeting Articles 21 & 24

Today, the Economic Development Committee voted to support two Fall Annual Town Meeting Articles sponsored by the Planning Board. Abstentions are staff not participating in the votes.

- Article 21, Regional Center (RC) Overlay District (by a vote of 4-0-1)
- Article 24 East Central/Union Street Intersection (southern side) (by a vote of 4-0-1)

The EDC urges favorable action by Town Meeting on Article 21, as the Overlay District supports the economic growth and success of the Golden Triangle region and its constituent businesses.

The EDC urges favorable action by Town Meeting on Article 24, as a "Downtown Gateway" promotes much-needed revitalization of the westbound approach to the Natick's downtown by encouraging deliberate, responsible mixed use and residential development.

Articles 21 & 24 will substantially benefit the economic development interests of the Town of Natick.

The EDC is an advisory board, created by the Town of Natick's Select Board, with the charge to:

- Attract business development to Natick that will maximize tax revenue and generate employment opportunities
- Promote utilization of existing infrastructure and facilities to the fullest extent possible
- Recognize neighborhood and community issues, concerns, and character
- Identify and plan for changing trends and opportunities
- Market Natick for economic development and strategic partnerships