



Joan McNamara <jmcnamara@natickma.org>

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## Supporting 100% Affordable Housing at 5 Auburn St

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**Anne Brubaker** <abrubake@wellesley.edu>  
To: selectboard@natickma.org

Mon, Feb 27, 2023 at 8:50 AM

To the Select Board,

My name is Anne Brubaker. I have been a Natick resident for the last five and a half years. Me and my family of four live in Precinct 7. I'm writing in support of the 100% Affordable Housing Unit on 5 Auburn St. Current and future Natick residents will benefit from having more affordable housing options, and we can model these efforts for other neighboring towns, whose housing prices are high or higher than ours.

We are facing an affordable housing crisis in our Town and across the Commonwealth.

High housing costs in Massachusetts place significant financial pressure on the state's residents, and a lack of affordable housing can decrease the region's competitiveness.

Housing is the key to reducing intergenerational poverty and increasing economic mobility. Research shows that increasing access to affordable housing is the most cost-effective strategy for reducing childhood poverty and increasing economic mobility in the United States.

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) projects "significant growth" in the low-income population in Metrowest by 2040, and warned that "if these economic and housing disparities persist along racial lines, health disparities are likely to persist as well". The time is now to intervene.

The Natick Affordable Housing Trust has pledged over \$600,000 to a 100% affordable project on the site and I would like the Select Board support the Trust mission in creating more affordable housing in Town.

The Town has funded just one new affordable housing structure with 2 units in the last 40 years. It is time to change that tally.

Thank you,  
Anne

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