



Billy Walsh <bwalsh@natickma.org>

Sanctuary City

1 message

Paul Piccioli <paulpiccioli@gmail.com>
To: Selectboard@natickma.org

Thu, Nov 21, 2024 at 10:59 AM

Dear Members of the Board of Selectmen,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal for Natick to adopt a "Welcoming Communities Policy," which is a rather deceptive and misleading title for a sanctuary city designation and should be changed so as to not undermine transparency. While I recognize the importance of fostering an inclusive and welcoming community, I believe this decision carries significant implications for our town and should be approached with careful consideration, particularly given the current challenges we face. The implications of such a move are significant, particularly given the pressing challenges our town is already facing.

First and foremost, with an override looming and the prospect of hundreds of new housing units coming on the market, Natick is already grappling with substantial financial and infrastructural pressures. Designating the town as a sanctuary city will impose additional costs on local services, including education, public safety, and social programs, without a clear understanding of how these expenses will be managed. Such financial strain risks exacerbating an already challenging fiscal environment, particularly at a time when residents may be asked to support an override.

Furthermore, this decision could have unintended consequences for the character and resources of our community. As a town, we must ensure that our existing residents' needs are met without overextending our capabilities or compromising the quality of life that makes Natick such a desirable place to live.

A decision of this magnitude should not be made unilaterally by the select board, as it affects every resident in Natick and could have long-term consequences. The question of whether Natick should become a sanctuary city is deeply consequential and very divisive. It is only fair and democratic that such a decision be placed before the voters of Natick to ensure the voices of all residents are heard.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I trust you will consider the concerns of residents as you deliberate on this issue.

Sincerely,

Paul Piccioli

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