

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing this letter today to show my support for the three proposals up for discussion on January 3. They are as follows:

- Allow residential 2-4 family uses as a permitted use in the R-3 and OC-1 zones, as they are in the village and along Route 103.
- Allow tiny houses on foundations.
- Make workforce housing a permitted use in the town's designated workforce housing zone.

These proposals will enable Warner to grow in a responsible, environmentally sensitive, and low-impact way to meet the demands of the current day. At present, far too many young people, divorced and single-parent families, retirees, and those on fixed incomes are unable to find or afford housing in our area. This is a terrible travesty, as even workers in our town's stores such as Market Basket and The Kitchen cannot afford to live nearby! A lack of affordable and available housing can also throw lives into chaos; I have heard of families needing to live out of their cars or couch-surf so that their children can remain in our school district. That is a disgrace!

In addition, I am a firm believer that diversity makes communities strong, and that exclusionary zoning practices lead to segregation of many kinds. A basic understanding of this country's checkered history proves that they leave indelible scars for generations to come. Having a variety of people in our town from different age brackets and economic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds will make us a stronger, more caring, more empathic, more inclusive, and more welcoming community. And that is the kind of town we should all live in!

Thank you for seriously considering these new proposals and seeing the many benefits that they will bring our town.

Sincerely,
Emily Karmen