

Newton City Councilors and Members of the Land Trust Committee,

I am a long-time resident of Newton, and I am writing to encourage you to support the proposal for a new development in the Upper Falls near Needham Street and the Saco-Pettee Mill. It will bring 800 new rental homes to the area and 123 of these will be affordable housing eligible.

For the current residents of Newton who have or will be entering their senior years, these rentals could be a lower cost option for housing than keeping up large family homes. The development also will have access to Cambridge and Boston through the shuttle service provided by the mobility hub, which will be a main feature of the development. This would give even non-drivers the ability to avail themselves of all the top-notch doctors and medical facilities in Boston, as well as all of the entertainment venues and historical sites.

I also want to support efforts to increase affordable housing. There are too many families in our cities and communities across Massachusetts who are facing rents they just can't afford. And they're continuing to go up and up every year, especially in Newton. I think that our city should make an effort to rectify this situation through increasing the affordable housing options available to families in Newton.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheldon A. Buckler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Sheldon A. Buckler
200 Dudley Road
Newton, MA 02459