## Celebrating 33 Years of Environmental Leadership!



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Dear Newton City Councilors,

From Green Newton's environmental perspective, the Version 2.0 Village Center Overlay District Zoning Proposal would provide our community with the benefits of much-needed housing that is energy-efficient, and near transit, jobs, and shopping.

With limited housing options in our Village Centers, more people are likely to live in areas where they may not have easy access to public transit and are often tempted to rely instead on fossil fuel emitting vehicles. All of that contributes to substantial carbon emissions and exacerbates the harmful impacts of the climate crisis.

Fortunately, many people in our community are committed to making progress in achieving the goals of Newton's Climate Action Plan and reducing carbon emissions in our region. From an environmental perspective, we also hope that all city councilors understand why it is essential for Newton to comply with the MBTA Communities Act.

For our stated reasons, Green Newton urges your unwavering support for The Village Center Zoning Proposal that will make it easier for our community to provide more diverse mixed-use and environmentally sustainable housing options in bike-friendly and walkable neighborhoods, within the proximity of public transit locations.

Sincerely,

Marcia Cooper

President, Green Newton