## Councilor Danberg:

Newton has always been a place that is home to people of all sorts of incomes. Over the years, however, the cost of housing has increased while the number of affordable units has decreased. This is an untenable challenge for Newton that is pushing life-long residents out of town. Unless we act quickly and allow more forward-thinking projects like Washington Place, more families will have to relocate.

Proposing more affordable housing makes this project necessary. But the area of Washington Street and Walnut Street in particular could use some economic redevelopment anyways. Washington Place will build 171 new housing units, and 40,000 square feet of commercial space for new restaurants, small-scale retail stores, and other businesses that will add considerably to Newtonville's economy. Washington Place will yield some important benefits for Newton, and I request that the City Council supports it for all of these reasons and more.

Best wishes,

Yetta Rosenberg

250 Hammond Pond Parkway, #702