Councilor Alison Leary City Clerk David Olson Newton City Hall 1000 Commonwealth Ave Newton, MA 02459

Carol Zitano 27 Durant St. Newton, MA 02458

Dear Councilor Leary,

My name is Carol Zitano and I am a resident of Ward 1 here in Newton. I am writing today because I am a proponent for the Washington Place project. I support any proposal that seeks to address Newton's growing housing affordability crisis.

The ability to afford housing in Newton is becoming more and more an exclusive opportunity only available to the rich. This has been a growing trend over the last few decades, and it seems to have really accelerated in just the last couple years. We need to be more proactive as a city about creating additional affordable and middle income housing units. By doing so we can begin to stem the steady tide of middle class professionals and senior citizens leaving Newton because they can't afford to stay here. Approving the Washington Place project is an excellent start, and I urge the Newton City Council to do so immediately. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol Zitano

'and Zitano