

For Advtisory Commitee

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To: Lisa Portscher <lportscher@brooklinema.gov>

In anticipation of Advisory's consideration of Warrant Article 26, I am writing to urge you to take WA 26 very seriously.

We are at a turning point in Brookline with competing interests vying for the upper hand where zoning and development, among other interests, are concerned. If Brookline is to move forward with a constructive future, we must find a way to bring competing interests together in a dialog that ultimately achieves a balanced approach to planning and development, while continuing to honor our community's core values. As we build a future for our shared space, a comprehensive way forward that honors all voices and leads to a *shared* vision for Brookline would be consistent with our historic position as a model community.

The goals of Article 26 are truly worthy. If you see a way to refine the article or improve its viability, by all means, let's hear those. But please don't dismiss it because you have questions about its timing or its lack of specificity - use it as a starting point for a critical process that is, frankly, overdue.

Thank you,
Frances Shedd-Fisher
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