

To: Advisory Committee

Fr: David Gladstone Brookline Chamber Resident PCT 16

RE Article 30

Advisory Members,

First and foremost thank you for your tireless work review and advising in all things town meeting and Brookline. The original article 30 as written by the petitioners pitted Affordable housing against affordable parking for business owners and their employees. The original idea of the former town meeting article 34 was novel and in its presentation created an opportunity to build affordable housing with air rights but at the same time maintaining all existing parking at the ground level. Town meeting passed enthusiastically with a number of people who were skeptical at the time.

The current revised verbiage moves the article into a territory of compromise between the petitioners and those who felt that changes in the language needed to occur. Truth be told we in the business community would like to see even more clarifying language to ensure parking is maintained for business owners, their employees and our customers and visitors who come to the village for all it offers. Compromise is necessary as both affordable housing and affordable parking for our business owners and their employees as well as our customers is paramount to ensure the economic vibrancy of the village. Based upon the rewrite this will ensure a review and study to understand where 39 spaces can be found to replace the loss of the 39 during construction and the creation of employee parking for the difference between what spaces would remain once the project is complete.

Our business owners and business organizations are not scared of change as long as we are able to maintain the economic activity that the village is known for. The businesses are galvanized and organized to ensure that we will be well represented in both committee review and public hearings for maintaining all 39 spaces in the village without impacting the available parking for our customers.

Based on the compromise language we encourage this committee to move this article on to town meeting in its revised form. Most business owners live outside of town. No groups actively caucus for our small businesses. We will turn out for TM to ensure our voices and concerns are heard on what irreparable harm could occur if the original article 30 with out revisions is voted upon. Let's put the B in Brookline to also represent business concerns in our town.

Thank You and Good night

D Gladstone