



August 20, 2020

Cape Cod Commission
3225 Main Street
P.O. Box 226
Barnstable, MA 02630

Re: Implementing Regulations for the West Harwich District of Critical Planning Concern

Dear Commissioners:

On Thursday, September 3, 2020 the Commission will be holding a public hearing to consider whether the proposed Implementing Regulations for the West Harwich District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC) conform to the guidelines set out for the West Harwich Special District established within Barnstable County ordinance 19-18 adopted on December 4, 2019.

The Town of Harwich has worked very closely with Cape Cod Commission staff, for which we are very appreciative, to develop the West Harwich Special District zoning bylaw, which will serve as the implementing regulations. The various working drafts were reviewed by the Harwich Planning Board at public meetings and shared with the 70+ people who requested to receive email updates about the West Harwich DCPC.

On August 4, 2020, Sarah Korjeff and I, along with Martha Hevenor and Elisabeth Kellam in attendance, presented a live virtual workshop on the proposed West Harwich DCPC and the required implementing regulations. There were some helpful and thoughtful discussion and the workshop was well received.

On August 11, 2020, the “final” document and what will be before you on September 3, 2020, was presented to the Planning Board. The Harwich Planning Board voted unanimously to support the efforts of the Town Planner and the Cape Cod Commission staff on the West Harwich Special District bylaw and to support the regulation document.

On August 17, 2020, the Board of Selectmen heard a presentation on the West Harwich DCPC and proposed implementing regulations. The Harwich Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to sponsor and approve the West Harwich Special District Zoning Bylaw and refer it to the Planning Board to begin the public hearing process and to include this zoning amendment within the Town Meeting warrant in September.

On August 18, 2020, the Board of Health heard a presentation on the West Harwich DCPC and proposed implementing regulations. The Harwich Board of Health voted unanimously to support the efforts and implementation regulations of the West Harwich Special District.


On August 19, 2020, the Conservation Commission heard a presentation on the West Harwich DCPC and proposed implementing regulations. The Harwich Conservation Commission voted unanimously to support the West Harwich Special District implementing regulation.

A public hearing on the proposed zoning amendment is scheduled for September 22, 2020 and the Annual Town Meeting vote is scheduled for September 26, 2020.

At this time, and on behalf of the Town of Harwich, we respectfully request that the Cape Cod Commission vote to confirm that the proposed implementing regulations, the West Harwich Special District zoning bylaw, conforms with the guidelines set out for the West Harwich Special District established within Barnstable County ordinance 19-18 adopted on December 4, 2019.

I will be present at the virtual public hearing on September 3, 2020 should you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully,



Charleen Greenhalgh
Town Planner

cc: Joe Powers, Interim Town Administrator
Board of Selectmen