

Stuart D. Halpert

September 3, 2019

Tisbury Conservation Commission
Attention: Jane Varkonda
66 Highpoint Lane Right Trailer
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

Dear Mrs. Varkonda:

I wish to submit this letter in support of the plan submitted by the Martha's Vineyard Shipyard for a marina.

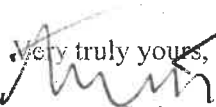
By way of background, I am a resident of Vineyard Haven and have a home on the Outer Harbor close to the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club. I am a boat owner, an active member of the yacht club, serve on its Board of Governors, and for the last several years, I have been the Chairperson of the Adult Sailing Committee.

I have been doing business with the Martha's Vineyard Shipyard for a number of years, and have come to know well the Hale Family for which I have the highest regard. They are good and fair business people. They are great lovers of boating, the harbor and our town of Vineyard Haven, and they are now into their third generation of ownership of the shipyard and participation in the commerce of our community. Moreover, they are significant employers in our community, and leaders for whom their employees have the highest respect and loyalty, and in many cases long tenure.

I wish you to know that I wholeheartedly support their application for a new boat facility for a whole variety of reasons. I think the use to which they would like to put their property is entirely in keeping with the purpose and character for which their property has been zoned. It continues the utilitarian, maritime nature of the neighborhood. While the use is one of low density, the accommodation of additional private boat owners on Beach Road would likely add the potential for some modest level of increased business for all of our Vineyard Haven merchants. The design of the facility they propose is, in my opinion, highly attractive and fully in keeping with the uses to which the immediate neighborhood has already been put. Moreover, the proposed plans are fully in keeping with the character of our town and the attractive and understated architectural elements of the Beach Road area and its working waterfront.

Finally I know from firsthand experience with members of the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club that there is dismay with a general shortage of slips, dock space, and moorings in and around Vineyard Haven Harbor. Each year a number of members note that, but for the lack to moorings and/or dock space, they would either purchase a pleasure boat, or bring their boat, in some instances now located in Edgartown, to Vineyard Haven Harbor. What they seek is capacity, convenience and service to augment and enhance their boating experience. I encourage you to consider favorably the proposed facility. Please let me know if I can be of any further information or assistance.

Very truly yours,


Stuart D. Halpert
92 Hatch Road
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568