

June 1, 2023

To: Martha's Vineyard Commission

From: Jeffrey Agnoli
56 Martha's Road
Edgartown, MA 02539

Dear MVC Commissioners:

I am an abutter to DRI 741, the Surke Meadow subdivision. I am writing to reiterate my opposition to the applicant's offer of an easement for a public walking trail along the edge of the proposed development and across the backyards of the abutters.

I am aware that the Land Bank is lobbying for this easement to create a public walking trail. The Land Bank has already been granted an easement for the adjacent 5-lot Division Road subdivision, and would require this new easement to complete the trail. I have had discussions with most of the abutters to this first subdivision (DRI 764,) and not a single one ever received notice that this walking trail behind their homes was part of the approval. Not a single homeowner, several with young children, are in favor of the public trail. These homeowners are already experiencing the impacts of the construction of the large houses that are part of DRI 764, and feel such a trail would only further the negative impacts to area character currently being felt.

If DRI 741 is to go forward, for the sake of more than a dozen Edgartown homeowners, the offer of a public walking trail should be deleted. Public access between Meshacket and Meetinghouse Roads is already existent through Island Grove and along Division Road. No trail, necessitating loss of habitat and privacy, should be built in this already altered area.

Thank you,

Jeffrey Agnoli