

Paul Foley

From: Curtis E. Schroeder [schroeder@mvcommission.org]
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2014 8:59 PM
To: 'Paul Foley'
Subject: FW: Stop & Shop

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From: Lennihan, Laura [<mailto:ll18@cumc.columbia.edu>]
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2014 6:18 PM
To: 'info@mvcommission.org'
Cc: Marjory Lennihan
Subject: Stop & Shop

Dear Commissioners:

I write to oppose the proposed expansion of the Stop & Shop store in Vineyard Haven for three reasons:

- 1 The size of the store will be a visual offense to the area, totally out of keeping with the low scale of the commercial buildings in Vineyard Haven. It is crucial that the fine esthetic of the Vineyard towns be preserved rather than being over run by the commercial interests of one business (Stop & Shop) and the general enthusiasm of the building contractors for approving anything that can be constructed anywhere, any size.
- 2 The traffic will be a nightmare. It is already a major, gigantic problem to negotiate getting into and out of Vineyard Haven during the summer. Think of the traffic backups on Beach road and State Road. The town will be avoided by anyone in their senses who can find some other way to get around. Cronigs will benefit and the town will suffer. (I have no opposition to Cronigs. I shop there to avoid the traffic around Stop & Shop).
- 3 The town does NOT need a gigantic grocery store. As it is, Stop & Shop is a bit dreary but has all of the things I am looking for. So go with a modest size increase and esthetic improvement.

As has been the case with so many of the Commission decisions, the impact on Island quality of life and esthetic are in the balance.

My opinion is shared by my mother, Marjory Lennihan, Vineyard Haven homeowner. Our family has considered the Island to be our second home for more than a century and my grandparents were year round residents and owners of Holmes Hole, a business on Main Street where Le Roux is now located.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinion.

Laura Lennihan
22 Grove Avenue
Vineyard Haven

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