

Paul Foley

From: Eleanor Hubbard [eleanor.hubbard@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 07, 2013 5:09 PM
To: foley@mvcommission.org
Subject: RE: Stop and Shop

To: The Martha's Vineyard Commission
Attn. Paul Foley

Dear Mr. Foley,

We would like to submit for your consideration the following concerns regarding the proposal for the expansion of the Vineyard Haven Stop & Shop store:

1. The fact that Stop & Shop needs to a.) annex and close a public road and b.) remove the public rest room, is a clear indication that their site is too small for the intended building.
2. The 35' height limit in Vineyard Haven is based on the height of existing residences in Tisbury which have, by tradition, appropriate spaces for side, front, and back yards. This tradition runs counter to the Stop & Shop plan which proposes a 35' tall building but one which covers virtually 95% of the property, blocking light and air to adjacent properties.
3. A superstore's effect on small businesses in any town must be taken into account. The character of the town of Tisbury and its pharmacies, florists, bakeries, etc. should not be discounted. Bigger is not necessarily better. We remember McDonald's attempt to put a fast food restaurant at Five Corners. If that plan had gone ahead, imagine the situation today.
4. It might be a more successful approach for Stop & Shop to evaluate larger locations for the desired super store or a different business model for a smaller store on this location.

The Town of Tisbury is not required to compromise its public streets and public parking to enhance Stop & Shop's bottom line. This proposal requires a great deal of thought and discussion.

Respectfully,

Eleanor Hubbard
Geoffrey White

Property owners in Tisbury and West Tisbury

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