



April 16, 2008

To: Martha's Vineyard Commission
Re: Bradley Square Project

We regret not being able to attend this very important meeting. Having been interested, involved and enthusiastic about the project since its inception, and as business owners and residents of the Arts District, we want to offer our strong support for the Bradley Square Project.

From a strictly aesthetic point of view, the property, as it now exists, is not only an eyesore in the neighborhood but an insult to the legacy and history of the Deniston property....a heartbreaking reminder that what we value most in our lives cannot be taken for granted but requires fixing, cleaning, care and attention. Bradley Square will be an asset to the neighborhood and the entire Town of Oak Bluffs, a change that we look forward to seeing every time we walk out of our front door.

There is another issue that many of us in support of this project have talked about...and that is the combined effort of the Arts, the African American community and Affordable Housing to put together not only a project that embraces many needs but offers people from different interest areas an opportunity to work together as a community with a single focus. Isn't this, after all, a microcosmic example of what we all wish for in our troubled world?

Let's set an example and do this project...let's do it with respect for our history, for everyone involved in the present and for our future legacy. Let's do it well and let's do it together.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hartford & Thad Harshbarger
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