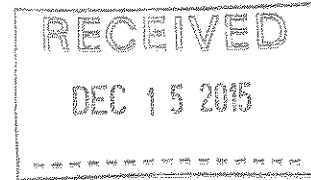


Renee Balter  
Box 106  
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557



MV Commission  
New York Ave  
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

December 15, 2015

**North Bluff seawall project, Oak Bluffs**

Dear Members of the MV Commission,

Over the years, I have demonstrated a keen interest in preserving and/or restoring the historic properties of Oak Bluffs. For me, these natural and man-made treasures remain as a testament to our heritage and a reminder of our original and unique beginnings.

Change is inevitable. The forces of nature are relentless and push us way beyond our desires to maintain the landscape we have known and loved over many generations.

I believe it is important to recognize our limitations and to make the best of any situation after weighing all sides of the issue and the possible solutions available. We also need to trust the experts who know what is possible and what is not.

If the project before you does not go through as planned, there is a great possibility that the roadway above the beach and the homes that line this heavily traveled avenue will be seriously compromised – not to mention the newly restored restroom, the new fishing pier and the plans for a brand new boardwalk.

I have read the letter submitted by Liz Durkee and am impressed with the thorough study and valuable insight she has provided. It all makes sense and I agree with her logical recommendation. I would simply add that we should take her advice and then turn all of our energies to protecting the rest of the 6+ miles of beach between Oak Bluffs and Edgartown and do all we can individually AND collectively to stop climate change so those beaches are with us for many more generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renee Balter". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Renee Balter  
Oak Bluffs Historic Commission  
Past member Cottage City Historic District