

**From:** [Candy daRosa](#)  
**To:** [Lucy Morrison](#)  
**Cc:** [Alex Elvin](#); [Rich Saltzberg](#)  
**Subject:** daRosa Letter of Support for the Southern Tier Project  
**Date:** Sunday, January 29, 2023 2:43:37 PM

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Dear Mr. Turner

Please accept this as a letter of support for the Southern Tier Project before you.

The Island's housing crisis continues to have a negative impact on our economy and infrastructure. As you and the commissioners know only too well, MVC's own recent housing need assessment concluded that the Island's socio-economic diversity is eroding at an alarming rate. We are now seeing this almost daily as businesses close and people leave the island.

The developers, Island Housing Trust (IHT) and Affirmative Investments (AI) were selected by the Town of Oak Bluffs after responding to the town's Request for Proposals that clearly recognizes the significant need for attainable housing options.

The Southern Tier project directly tackles this critical need by providing affordable and community housing for year-round residents. While I understand, and share, some of the concerns raised, it is impossible to provide housing at sufficient scale to timely address this crisis without this size and type of project. No housing development can possibly satisfy 100% of our community members' perspectives. The benefits this project will bring to the Island far outweigh any detriments.

I support the IHT and AI team in their efforts to develop Southern Tier and provide the much-needed affordable housing our Island Community so desperately needs. Please approve this project as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Candace C. daRosa  
Chilmark

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