



December 14, 2022

Mr. Adam Turner

Martha's Vineyard Commission

Greetings,

I am writing this letter to express Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard support for the development of the Southern Tier neighborhood project. As Executive Director of Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard, I am very aware of the pressing needs for additional housing for all residents of our island, not just our Older Adults, and this project will make progress in addressing this need.

We are particularly supportive of the approach to include multigenerational living opportunities for Older Adults which is a preference for many.

*"The design goal is to create highly accessible living spaces which meet the needs of tenants who require additional accommodations and are also attractive to tenants, regardless of accommodation requirements."*

Over 90% of Island Older Adults wish to stay on the island. Today there are not adequate options to make this a reality. The design of Southern Tier neighborhood has taken this into account for which we are appreciative.

*"All ground-floor units will be visitable, and all units will incorporate universal design principles to provide accommodation for residents that have special requirements, including seniors aging in place."*

We certainly recognize that there are many challenges associated moving forward such a project, but we believe the time is now to take action.

Thank you,

*Cindy Trish*

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