From: Robert Laskowski

To: <u>Lucy Morrison; Adam Turner</u>
Cc: <u>Alex Elvin; Rich Saltzberg</u>

Subject: Support for Oak Bluffs Southern Tier Affordable Housing Project

**Date:** Sunday, January 29, 2023 9:02:09 AM

## Dear Adam,

I am writing to voice my support for the Southern Tier Affordable Housing Project as a private citizen and resident of Oak Bluffs. As you know, as a retired physician executive I have a particular interest in health. The lack of affordable housing is a health crisis for our community. The negative direct and indirect health consequences of a lack of affordable housing have been well documented. The Southern Tier project is the result of careful planning designed to meet critical needs of our community. We will all benefit from it. I understand that other residents in Oak Bluffs might have concerns about the project. I take heart in the listening nature of the MV Commission and the creativity of the planners of the project to address most concerns. Past experience in controversial projects (e.g. the traffic circle on Vineyard Haven/Edgartown Road and the Oak Bluffs Circuit Avenue Street Improvements) has shown me that many concerns can be misplaced--including my own. Careful planning and execution I believe will mitigate potential negative effects in the neighboring community. We need to be respectful and cognizant of concerns, but also unafraid to act when the benefit is clear and the need is urgent--as they are in this case.

Please relate my enthusiastic support for the project to members of the MV Commission.

Many thanks for all you and your colleagues do for our community!

Bob Laskowski, MD 25 Tuckernuck Ave Oak Bluffs, MA

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Board of Trustees, University of Vermont Health Network Board Member, Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard Member, Dukes County Health Council Principal, Laskowski Advisors

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