



8/3/2021

Planning Board Chair and members:

After a thorough review by our Ag Committee members, and a lengthy presentation by Eric Cousens, it is our position that the proposal before you to expand the residential strip lot depth from 400 feet from the center line in the road to 750 from center line has not enough merit to justify recommending passage by your board and the City Council at this time.

We feel that this proposal has been initiated in haste. Failure to consider the issues listed below may have serious implications and establishes a poor precedent for the future.

- 1) There has not been any citizen feedback on record by abutters or property owners.
- 2) there is no calculation of the negative impact this will have on current forest and Agricultural land, including the Lake Auburn and/or Taylor Pond watersheds.
- 3) there is no information of the net loss to Agricultural and forest land with this expansion.
- 4) there is no information available as to how much this will impact prime soils and soils of statewide significance.
- 5) there is no information available as to how many wetlands and critical habitat loss will be affected.
- 6) there is no information on how many buildable lots will be created.
- 7) there is no real information on the tax implications of this proposal.
- 8) Auburn city staff is already working full time to fulfill demands on their time, during an unprecedented period of growth and . This will only add significantly to the work load of that department and create more confusion

Submitted on behalf of the Agricultural Committee of Auburn,

Kathy Shaw  
*Chair*