



November 13, 2018

Cape Cod Commission
P.O. Box 226
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Proposed Draft Regional Policy Plan

To Whom It May Concern,

Please know that at a duly posted meeting held in Provincetown on November 13, 2018, the Provincetown Select Board (formally the Board of Selectmen) discussed and voted to send these comments regarding the proposed new Regional Policy Plan. You will recall that three individual members of our Board also testified at the sub regional hearing.

We believe that the regulatory arm of the Cape Cod Commission is critical to managing growth and development on Cape Cod. The environment needs to be protected. Our quality of life needs to be protected. We believe that separating the regulatory performance standards from the Regional Policy Plan is a mistake and we believe it might lead to greater weight being given to development projects in the future. In the almost thirty years of the Cape Cod Commission's existence, the pressure on our land, air and water has continued to grow and development has increased. Every year we lose more acreage to development while we increase water consumption and waste production. As our population grows, we continue to have concerns about challenges facing our community such as the loss of our younger population, financial stability of our middle income residents and a trend toward a more seasonal economy. We feel that the Regional Policy Plan does not identify our year-round communities as being at risk, so we encourage the commission to include initiatives that promote year round community and livability. We feel these suggestions must be further expanded in the updated plan and should also include storm response and coastal resiliency to climate change, and the improvement of infrastructure with programs like the Grid Modernization efforts to make our electricity more reliable, greener and less expensive.

Because of our concerns, we will be encouraging our Provincetown Representative to the Cape Cod Commission to vote NO on this plan, until the minimum performance standards are returned and greater emphasis is given in the plan to protecting our year-round small communities so that we remain a region of diverse ages and diverse incomes.

Respectfully,

Tom Donegan
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Provincetown Select Board Chair

cc: Barnstable County Commissioners

Cape Cod Commissioners

Cape Cod Commission Executive Director Kristy Senatori

Provincetown Town Manager David Panagore

Provincetown Representative to the Cape Cod Commission Cheryl Andrews

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Board of Selectmen

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