

From: [Rand Burkert](#)
To: [CCC 2018 Tech Bulletins](#)
Subject: Sustainable Housing Request -- Rand Burkert, Orleans
Date: Sunday, January 6, 2019 10:03:45 AM

Dear Cape Cod Commission,

I am writing regarding your deliberations to be included in the technical bulletin on housing. Of course, this is the most crucial issue on the Cape for the future of a thriving and sociologically "real," multigenerational community. I am an Orleans resident, teacher at Nauset Schools and member of Food Forest Initiative of Cape Cod, a volunteer group teaching sustainable practices and initiating school gardens.

I recommend including language which requires new housing developments to leave some topsoil for community gardening; the common practice, I'm sure you know, is to scrape it all away before any building, wiring and sewerage can begin. But if we are to work toward a sustainable Cape Cod Community, we have to encourage home food production. Community garden spaces encourage actual communication among residents, with notable improvement to quality of life.

In addition to this, it is clear to me that requirements should include -- at the very least -- a ten percent rule for affordable housing units for workers. The technical bulletin must surely remove the following language, which would simply eviscerate (I am sure you know this) any real commitment to more socially equitable housing dedicated to working people who provide service and support every resident of Cape Cod (health care workers, restaurant workers, shop clerks, landscapers, etc.):

"Multi-unit residential development proposing 100% rental unities of 1,200 square feet or less per unit are not required to provide onsite affordable or workforce units or their offsite/monetary equivalent."

It is evident, and I am sure members of the Cape Cod Commission can plainly see, that this language essentially eliminates any obligation on the part of developers to think about a sustainable and just future for Cape Cod. It doesn't make any sense to include such language, except in cynical resignation or acceptance of increasing difficulty for living here, for the majority of hard working, low income people.

Thanks for your consideration,

Rand Burkert, Orleans
Lower Cape Indivisible