

June 27,2025

Dear Zoning and Planning Officials,

I fully support changing our zoning regulations, as put forth by Eric Treaster, to put a maximum height on buildings to preserve the rural character of our town. One of the reasons I live in Gales Ferry is because of the quiet, peaceful, rural community. I don't want to see high-density, 6 story apartment buildings in our town, especially in a historic district. As the sole supporter in my family, I work hard to have the quality of life I want, and I don't want it destroyed.

I was at the zoning and planning meeting June 26th, and I don't agree with the client's lawyer's assessment that high-density buildings would have no effect on traffic, because people need cars to get around here.

I would like feedback as to how these buildings would benefit the town, without adding strain on local resources such as schools and roads. Would these buildings create enough tax revenue or warrant more taxation of the local population for increases in costs, which evidently people don't want from the latest budget votes.

On a personal note, Sweet Briar Farm is one of our town's treasures. It is one of the most beautiful, peaceful places in town. It is a shame it is going to be destroyed. It is a shame the town didn't purchase it for a park to put something there where people could come and enjoy themselves. Something like Wilcox Park in Westerly. Instead of some strip mall on route 12 – we could have had thoughtful development of the area that would benefit the town and make people want to spend time here.

Thank you for your consideration,

Caryn Oresky

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