



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF AMHERST SUPPORTS:

ARTICLE 22: INCLUSIONARY ZONING

Article 22 would amend the zoning bylaw to provide incentives for building affordable housing units in Amherst and to ensure that new residential developments of ten or more units include affordable housing.

Amherst lacks sufficient affordable housing and there is a pressing need to stimulate development of affordable housing units. Without some means to recover the costs, it is not financially feasible for developers to provide affordable housing units in new residential construction. The amended zoning bylaw would allow additional market rate dwelling units to offset the reduced rent from affordable units and would relax certain other density and dimensional restrictions for new developments of ten or more units. The bylaw would require 10% of total project units to be affordable.

The League supports provision of a variety of low and moderate income housing, both public and private, consistent with community needs. The League supports zoning and other land use policies to provide for such housing, including moderate increases in the number of attached dwellings and in density as bonuses for construction of low and moderate income housing.

Kathy Vorwerk and Cynthia Brubaker
LWVA Co-Presidents

Martha Hanner
LWVA Local Action Chair

The League of Women Voters of Amherst, a non-partisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, comments on individual Town Meeting warrant articles when these articles are relevant to published local, state, or national positions. League positions are established after League members study issues and there is general consensus among members.