

Date: October 21, 2022

To: Littleton Planning Board

From: Littleton Sustainability Committee

Re: Considerations for sustainable development at Northern Bank - 265, 277, 287, and 289 Great Road and 25 Robinson Road

The Sustainability Committee respectfully requests that the following issues be considered in any future action regarding the development of the parcel at 265, 277, 287, and 289 Great Road and 25 Robinson Road. Sustainability can be defined as a balance between the environment, equity, and economy, as such, we have an interest in a wide variety of issues, including:

- **EV Chargers for visitors/customers:** EV chargers, principally Level 3 fast charging stations (e.g. EVGo or Electrify America) and Level 2 charging stations, should be provided for visitors. To ease future growth, the electrical infrastructure should be in place for installation of chargers at locations throughout the parking facilities.
- **Native plantings:** Only native plants should be used, with attention to water use and tree species longevity in changing climate. Landscape design should be environmentally friendly, and drought resistant, with limited lawn and possibly incorporating areas such as a pollinator garden.
- **Pedestrian connection:** Traffic solutions should prioritize pedestrian and bicycle connections to the Common and surrounding area.
- **LEED certification of buildings**
- **Lighting:** Low energy and downward facing lighting should be used to minimize the effect of artificial lighting on local fauna, save energy, and preserve access to nighttime skies.
- **Low impact development practices:** e.g. permeable pavement and water management. In June of 2018, the town of Littleton received a **Regulatory Analysis for Low Impact Development** as a product of a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant. This analysis, as well as the **Summary of Findings from the Community Resilience Building Workshop**, is available at <https://www.littletonma.org/town-administrator/pages/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness>. We urge the Planning Board, as well as the Select Board, to review the regulatory analysis for potential improvements in existing policies and requirements that would lead to better procedures and incentives promoting sustainable development.
- **Accessible/universal design:** The ADA sets minimum standards for buildings and facilities. Universal design incorporates inclusive elements and accessible features in the design, creating coherent, usable spaces that benefit all.
- **Open space gathering areas:** Public gathering areas are an important part of a resilient community. Open space and social gathering areas with sun shelters, benches, and picnic tables, and connectivity throughout the property via pedestrian paths will help to bring a human scale to the development.

The Sustainability Committee would welcome any opportunity to discuss this list and any other topics with the Planning Board and any developer or other interested party.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Rambacher

Chair, Littleton Sustainability Committee