

From: Lisa Bennett
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 9:35 AM
To: Maren Toohill <MToohill@littletonma.org>
Subject: Letter in support of Springdell Farm

Members of the Littleton Planning Board,

I am writing in support of Jamie Cruz and Springdell Farm and their request for permission to move forward with their composting project. My family and I have been CSA members at Springdell Farm for more than 10 years and we know Jamie's commitment to her farm and the surrounding community. It is clear from the plans which Jamie has provided that this project will involve only clean landscaping waste and will not produce the odor that might come from food waste or other material. Her project will enrich the soil, create more farmable land, and support two local businesses - Springdell and the Onyx Corp.

The objections raised by the neighboring farm can all be addressed by Jamie. However, they have refused to communicate directly with her about their concerns despite her invitations to do so. Among the priorities that Jamie is highly committed to is the health and well-being of her neighboring farms. She doesn't view them as competition, but as members of what she calls her "agri-hood" community and she fights to support their way of life and the health of their farms as much as her own. I have no doubt that Jamie would do whatever she could to ensure that her project did not infringe in any negative way on her neighbors.

As development continues throughout Littleton, these little farms are under increased pressure with each passing year. Springdell Farm provides so much to the local community - fresh, locally grown food, beautiful open space, access to the farm and events that promote understanding of our food system and where our food comes from, a connection to the land, and so much more. For as long as we have been Springdell Farm CSA members, I have been so impressed by Jamie's wealth of knowledge and deep commitment to not only her farm but to also to the wider farming community. Without this composting project, Springdell could be lost to developers. This would be an enormous loss to the local community. Once this gem is gone, it will be lost for good and Littleton and surrounding communities will be worse off for it. Jamie has come up with a creative plan that will not only save her farm, but which really can be a win-win for everyone involved.

As devoted members of SpringDell, we implore to vote in favor of this petition.

Sincerely,
Lisa Bennett and Phil D'Amico
19 Old Village Rd.
Acton, MA 01720