

From: Sharon Martens

Sent: Sunday, October 2, 2022 11:20 AM

To: Maren Toohill <MToohill@littletonma.org>

Subject: Public Hearing- 571 Great Road, Assessor's Map R-19 Parcel 7

****THIS EMAIL WAS SENT BY AN EXTERNAL SENDER****

Dear Planning Board,

"Preserving and supporting the expansion of the remaining working farms" is stated directly in the Littleton Master Plan (p. 34). Approving Springdell Farm's application to support and sustain the existing active farm, not only supports Springdell Farm but also Littleton's Master Plan.

Springdell Farm is one of Littleton's last remaining working farms and they are committed to keeping their land for agricultural use despite the opportunity to develop the land. Once land becomes developed, Littleton loses that open space forever.

Springdell Farm is a huge benefit to the Town. Not only do they provide fresh, high quality food grown right here in Littleton, but they also support a large number of other local farms and businesses by selling their products. They create a sense of community through their CSAs and special events and they bring people from surrounding towns to pick up their farm shares.

Supporting and keeping the few remaining farms in Littleton is a theme throughout the Littleton Master Plan. The Master Plan specifically states "The Town and its residents can help farmers succeed by shopping locally, promoting farms to those outside Littleton, putting in place policies that protect and benefit farmers, and ensuring that local regulations do not impede or unduly complicate the efforts of local farmers to operate thriving agricultural businesses. The continued existence and success of farms will help accomplish the goals of economic development, open space, natural resources and provide fresh, healthy and sustainable food options for Littleton residents"(p. 75).

By supporting Springdell Farm's application, not only would you be protecting one of Littleton's last working farms, you would also be supporting the Master Plan. I urge you to approve the application.

Sincerely,

Sharon Martens
174 Foster St.