2022-2023 City of Newton



To: City Council

From: Council President Albright

Date: October 27, 2023

RE: Regarding #38-22 VCOD

Colleagues:

As you may know the Zoning and Planning Committee has passed #38-22 out of committee and it is now in the hands of the Council. The purpose of this memo is to lay out the process for our work. According to the MBTA Communities Act <u>guidelines</u>, the deadline to submit our "District Compliance Application" is December 31. The Planning Department will need time to create the application.

Our first opportunity to discuss #38-22 is our Nov 6th meeting. This is the night before the election and we typically have a short meeting on that night.

I have scheduled a special Council meeting for 7 pm on November 15th, dedicated 100% to our work on #38-22. Several Councilors plan to submit amendments. Please submit your amendments to Carol Moore by Nov 3 at noon. All amendments will be forwarded to the Planning Staff who will then organize these amendments for our discussion at our special meeting (Nov 15th) as they did for ZAP. They will be grouped into text amendments or map amendments and also whether the amendment effects the whole city or deals only with a particular village. They will get this framework document back to us in time for our Friday packet on Nov 10th for the special meeting on #38-22 on November 15th.

If we do not finish our work at the special meeting, we will continue our work at our regular meeting on November 20th. I suspect that the #411-22 which amends our tree ordinance will likely also be on 2nd call that night as well.

Our next regular meetings for the rest of this term are scheduled for December 4th and if needed December 18th. Recognizing MBTA guidelines (and our Dec holidays) Dec 18th is a bit late. It will be very difficult to find another night for a special meeting as several special events will happen in November/December including the holidays, our Retirement Dinner (Dec 13th), our Caucus (Nov. 29th), and Land Use meetings.