



North Andover Housing Partnership Committee

July 2, 2007

Dear Neighbors of the Greenery:

As you have no doubt heard by now, Neighborhood of Affordable Housing was the successful bidder at the Greenery auction, and they plan to close on the property in early August. Their intention is to develop 42 apartments, with 25% rented at market rate, and 75% rented at affordable rates.

The Housing Partnership Committee is very excited about this project. The town's Affordable Housing Plan (available on the Town's web site through the Community Development Office link) identifies two critical scarcities in the Town's housing supply: rentals and affordable housing. This project satisfies both those needs. Furthermore, it utilizes an existing building rather than constructing a new building on formerly open space – an environmental advantage and a State priority. For these reasons the HPC gladly supports NOAH's plan.

The next step in the process, after acquiring the property, is to get Town Meeting approval for committing \$1,000,000 of CPA funds to this project. We trust people will remember the HPC, the CPC, Finance Committee and Selectmen approved the project after multiple meetings and reviews. Even though the CPC request was rejected at Town Meeting in May, we do not think there was enough time for TM to consider the merits of the case and defend against some misconceptions. After more outreach and education with neighbors and the Town, we intend to introduce an article to this effect at the next Town Meeting.

In the time between now and next Town Meeting, there will be meetings or gatherings about this project. NOAH plans to hold an open house/tour shortly after they close on the property to which neighbors, Town officials and others are invited. There will be opportunities for you to ask questions and voice concerns.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any desire to discuss this further.

The Housing Partnership Committee

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