## Dear Lincoln Friends and Neighbors:

What vision of Lincoln do we share? Over the past several decades, our town has voted consistently for projects that preserve open space, increase access to housing, and protect our broader environment. With Lincoln Woods and the Ryan Estates, we have welcomed new residents in the village center giving them easy access to shopping, the train, our trails, and the schools.

The proposed zoning changes under the MBTA Communities Housing Choice Act (HCA) that we will vote on at Town Meeting invite us to continue sharing that spirit and vision of Lincoln. Can we trust our talented and proven leaders to balance concerns about the proposed level of development with the values we have consistently expressed?

We, the undersigned, are confident that we can and that we will benefit by doing so, just as we have for decades. We ask that you join us in voting **YES** for the amendments to our zoning bylaws designed to implement Option C when we gather at Town Meeting on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## Briefly, here's our reasoning:

- Residents have voiced strong support for rezoning near transit Twice: Large majorities both in September (76.4% for Option C at the State of the Town Meeting) and in December 2023 (55% for C; 6.9% for various D options at the Special Town meeting) to concentrate re-zoning at the mall and village center. These decisions were an affirmation that transit-oriented development makes environmental and climate sense and that it is most likely to contribute to housing and a more vibrant and sustainable commercial center at the mall. They also reflect the goals of the town's 2009 Comprehensive Plan.
- The RLF-owned mall should remain in the HCA zoning plan. HCA-compliant rezoning will help the RLF to reinvest in the mall both to support our commercial center and contribute to transit-oriented housing for the town and the region. 'By right' development makes any RLF mall reinvestment project less risky and therefore more attractive to investors.
- Lincoln's proposed bylaws and design guidelines provide stringent controls on 'by right' zoning. The Planning Board has listened to and incorporated many comments provided by opponents and supporters of this bylaw. Margaret Olson, Chair of the Planning Board, has stated that the Board has taken a conservative approach to the bylaws to address concerns about their impact, while still honoring the larger democratic preference for options that are more likely to create additional housing under the HCA.
- The proposal is ready for voting. Since the law was passed in 2021, an extraordinarily qualified group of Lincoln volunteers and staff have studied, invited active engagement,

and listened carefully to comments from the community to bring us a sound proposal that not only complies with the HCA but also respects the values of the Town. Community input has led to significant tightening of the bylaws, for example, by reducing the density of housing in the village center, and by imposing more stringent height restrictions and setback requirements.

Some Lincoln residents are asking us to vote down the proposed bylaws with the hope that some alternative, yet-to-be-articulated, consensus plan can be hammered out in the few short months before the looming HCA deadline. Our concern is that we already know what the alternatives are. These options disperse rezoning to parcels in town (Lincoln North, Battle Road Farm) that are likely to result in less housing and could take the RLF mall out of the HCA further restricting housing in that area and delaying revitalization of the mall.

The HCA will bring change. We have an opportunity to respond to these changes with generosity, creativity, and confidence as we have for decades.

DeLori, Rosamond

Curtin, Jason

Adams, Abigail Angiolillo, Dea Andrysiak, Chris Andrysiak, Sarah Arons, Gina Bassett, Ken Beekman, Emily Benik, Alex Berkery, Merrill Berland, Laura Bermont, Becky Bishop, Sarah Blanchfield, Rebecca Blanchfield, Paul Boardman, Pam Bordiuk, John Bordiuk, Rory Boynton, Janet Brand, Stephen

Briggs, David

Briggs, Elaine

Brogan, Julie

Buell, Kim

Buell, Larry

Burns, Brian

Callow, Jess

Choate, Deb

Calhoun, Annie

Carlson, Karen

Chatfield, Alex

Clemens, Lindsay

Constable, Buzz

Corbin, Cathy

Boynton, Janet

DeNormandie, Alice DeNormandie, Penny DeNormandie, Tom Doherty, Pilar Donaldson, Jona Donaldson, Nancy Doyle, Anne Drew, Jon Drew, Rachel Dvash, Nataly Eaton, Anne Eaton, Jeff England, Dan Falender, Andy Farrahi, Shirin Ferris, Jon Ferris, Kristen Fincke, Nancy Fincke, Randall Fiore, Caroline Fiore, Mike Fiore, Lorraine Fleming, Nancy Fleming, Jim Forman, Ian Frost, Rainer Frost, Martha Foley Jr., John F. Funkenstein, Amy Gertz, Dwight Gidlewski, Cailin Gingrich, Bryn

Gnazzo, Trintje Gnazzo, Andy Grindley, Josh Grindley, Sandy Halsted, Gina Hamilton, Chris Hashley, Jennifer Haslett, Tom Haslett, Emily Hein, Alan Herbert, Lis Herbert, Zach Hodges, Ruth Horowitz, Shira Howland, Sue Hurd, Ken Hurd, Pam Jalet, Kimberly Jalet, Brian Kelly, Bryan Kelly, Elizabeth Kelman, Jon Kimball, Joan Kimball, John Klem, Chris Klem, Sue Koenig, John Kupperstein, Bob Lane, Lauren Lefkowitz, Jesse Leggat, Barbara Lenth, Jackie Levington, David

Goodman, Johanna

Levy, Karin Nolan, John Soulette, Nancy Levy, David O'Hagan, Trisha Stason, Bill Light, Paula O'Neil, Barbara Stason, Sue Light, Jonathan O'Neil, David Stechschulte, Mary Lockwood, Mollye O'Rourke, Jane Stewart, Scott Lorenz, Mary Helen Oakley, Tristram Stewart, MingYi Loud, Gwyn Onigman, David Stock, James Lupkas, Sara Orr, Nannette Stokey, Betsy Lupkas, Scott Page, Katherine Storer, Jim Mandelkorn, Rick Paige, Jason Storer, Sandy Mason, Rachel Pearson, Candace Sullivan, Kathleen Masterson, Mo Prince, Karen Sullivan, Lara R. Reiner, Ginger Shah, Surendra Maulsby, Lucy McAdow, Ron Reiner, Kurt Taylor, Susan McCarthy, Chris Robbat, Dana Thornton-Wells, Tricia McGean, Tricia Robbat, Joe Tingley, Dilla Mendelson, John Rogers, Cathy Urion, David Roland, Travis Vander Muelen, Allen Miara, Maria Mitchell, DJ Rossiter, Allen Von Mertens, Peter Rossiter, Selina Walker, Tom Mitchell, Matt Mitchell, Tara Roush, Katrin Walker, Katy Mitchell, Kenny Russell, Aldis Wang, Anne Mollica, Richard Sachs, Lucy Wang, Andy Mollica, Nicholas Sampson, Barbara Weigel, Irene Mollica, Christopher Santamaria, Roberto Welles, Ginny Montori, Staci Schmergel, Joanna Wells, Ben Morgan, Buffer Siegel, Ron Wells, Bryce Morgan, Terri Shepard, Kathleen Welsh, Jeani Shepard, Ray Morris Gundy, Jennie Welsh, Susan Mostue, Patty Shorb, Ellen Williams, Blandyna Mundt, Jayne Shorb, Paul Winchell, Claire Murphy, Chris Slayter, Barbara Winship, Susan Murphy, Susan Slingerland, Vicky Wolf, Bob Neurath, Rachel Smith, Tucker Wolf, Bryce Nichols, Richard Soo, Jonathan Wood, Krystal Nicholson, Katie Soo, Kara Zeis, Jen

## Please join us in voting YES on March 23<sup>th</sup> for Article 3 which amends our bylaws to implement the goals of Option C.

To add your signature, please email <u>sign@hcaletter.org</u> or visit <u>https://hcaletter.org/.</u>
For more reasons to vote YES, please visit <u>https://hca-yes.org/.</u>