



1/26/2017

Mary O'Neil
Department of Planning and Zoning, City Hall
149 Church St.
Burlington VT 05401

Dear Ms. O'Neil:

The Burlington Development Review Board will soon hold hearings to review an application to build 75 workforce apartments on Colchester Avenue directly across the street from the University of Vermont and the University of Vermont Medical Center. This is the project proposed by Frank Vonturkovich et al and has been in the planning process for several years. It recently received unanimous approval from the city's Design Advisory Board.

The Chamber has been advocating for the development of workforce housing to meet the articulated needs of professionals in our region for many years. The size, scope and location of this project aligns nicely with both survey data and anecdotal feedback that we have received from our members and the staff employed by member organizations. This new housing project would provide the area with housing where residents could walk, bike, or take the bus to work and downtown. Similarly, they could take advantage of an onsite rideshare service, such as the Burlington-based CarShare Vermont.

We hope that the Development Review Board will look favorably upon the application. The Chamber would be glad to provide any testimony or additional information that you fee necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Torti", written in a cursive style.

Thomas W. Torti
President