
Re: "From miniature golf to housing?"

From Ashman,Beth <bashman@cranstonri.org>

Date Thu 2/13/2025 1:14 PM

To ride8575@verizon.net <ride8575@verizon.net>

Cc Toby Arment <tobyarment01@gmail.com>; Brownell,Grace <gbrownell@cranstonri.org>

Thank you for your letter. The Herald did miss print the email address as you suspected.

Beth

Beth Ashman, MCP, AICP

Acting Director of Planning | City Planning Dept.

City Hall, Room 309 | 869 Park Avenue | Cranston, RI 02910

(401) 780-3222| bashman@cranstonri.org

<https://www.cranstonri.gov/>



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From: ride8575@verizon.net <ride8575@verizon.net>

Sent: Sunday, February 9, 2025 2:04 PM

To: planning@cranstonrr.org <planning@cranstonrr.org>

Cc: Ashman,Beth <bashman@cranstonri.org>

Subject: Re: "From miniature golf to housing?"

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(Cc'ing Beth Ashman in case Planning Dept email address shown in the Cranston Herald article is incorrect.)

Re: Mar. 4th Workshop on Mulligan's Island Proposal

To the Planning Department of the City of Cranston:

We all know that the current shortage of affordable housing is an issue that threatens the social, cultural, and economic health of our communities. From the inability of young people to afford homes where they can build a family and a future, to the homelessness crisis, to the gentrification and homogenization of our cities and towns, the housing crunch is a major contributor to community decay and a threat to future growth.

So, yes, let us please move forward - all the way, this time - with the conversion of the Mulligan's Island parcel to a residential project. But let us commit one-hundred-percent to turning this into a project that benefits us all (instead of enriching the few) by mandating and ensuring that it addresses the issues referenced above. This is a good site on which to develop housing that addresses our state's lack of options for people facing homelessness. We don't need to provide 2,000 sq ft, 3-bedroom homes for homeless individuals, but we owe them better than pallet-villages. It is also a site where we could address the scarcity of affordable homes for first-time-buyers. We don't need more \$500 and \$600 and \$700K family homes or upscale condo villages, but we need nice homes where families can feel safe and secure without having to sacrifice health insurance, food, investing, saving for college, etc.

So my hope is that we will dedicate this project to addressing the pressing needs facing our city. If that means the city must set limits on how much future units on this site can be sold for, let's do that. If it means that potential buyers must be screened to ensure that these properties go to those who need them, let's do that. If it means that some tax dollars will be necessary to get the project done, or that special financing terms will be needed for prospective qualified buyers, let's make clear to the citizens of Cranston why that is in our long-term interest, and let's do that.

Thanks for your work on behalf of our city, and thank you for accepting our input.

David Wasser and Dr. Susan Abbotson

15 Concord Ave

Cranston, RI