

Dear members of the Newton City Council and Land-Use Committee:

I would like to share my interest in the Washington Place project being put forward in Newtonville. As a former college student in Newton, finding affordable housing close to where I went to school was impossible. Now, as a college graduate, I would love to return to Newton and live closer to where I work (and also just to enjoy living in such an awesome town!). Unfortunately, no matter how much I try, I just can't seem to find a place that fits my budget. And I know I'm not alone - working in the interior design business in Newton, I meet many people who complain about how much of an arduous task it was buying their new home or renting their new apartment.

It seems that the Washington Place proposal will allow more people like me to maybe afford to live in Newton someday. There has been a real need for housing of this type in Newton for a long time. I hope you will approve this project and start pushing the needle in the right direction on this. I really want to move back to Newton!

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Monica Johnson".

Monica Johnson
Dorchester, MA