RECEIVED
NOV - 9 2026
CAPE COD COMMISSION

November 3, 2026

Cape Cod Commission
c/o Lisa Dillon, Commission Clerk
P.O. Box 226
3225 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Riverview School — Friends Together Phase 2 Housing DRI

Dear Director Senatori and Members of the Cape Cod Commission:

I am writing in strong support of Riverview School's proposal to convert the former Cape Cod Irish Village hotel into housing for Friends Together participants and the staff who will support them. As the father of a young adult daughter with autism and a recent graduate of Riverview School's GROW program, I understand firsthand how important this opportunity is for families like ours.

Our daughter, Annie, is a wonderful young woman who enjoys friendships, social activities, and being part of a community. Her years at Riverview have helped her develop greater confidence, independence, and meaningful relationships. Like many young adults with developmental disabilities, however, Annie will continue to need significant support throughout her life. While she can develop greater independence, she will not be able to live entirely on her own.

As parents, one of our greatest concerns is what life will look like for Annie as she grows older, particularly when we are no longer able to provide the support and care she needs. We want what every parent wants for their child: a safe and fulfilling life, meaningful relationships, a sense of purpose, and the opportunity to belong to a community where she is known, valued, and supported.

Unfortunately, there are far too few residential options that offer this combination of independence, community, and lifelong support. The transition from school to adulthood is particularly challenging because families must piece together housing, employment, social opportunities, and care, often with limited options and little certainty about the future.

Friends Together offers a thoughtful and compelling solution. By integrating housing with adult day programming, employment opportunities, and social and recreational activities, the program has the potential to create something much more meaningful than simply a place to live. It offers the opportunity for young adults like Annie to build a genuine adult life within a supportive and connected community.

I believe this project also represents an important opportunity for Cape Cod to demonstrate leadership in addressing a significant and growing need. Families across the country are searching for sustainable models that provide dignity, independence, and security for adults with developmental disabilities. Friends Together has the potential to become one of those models.

I respectfully urge the Cape Cod Commission to approve the proposed Phase 2 hotel conversion. This housing is an essential component of the Friends Together vision and could make a profound difference in the lives of Annie and many other young adults and their families.

Thank you for your consideration and for supporting a community in which individuals of all abilities have the opportunity to thrive.

Sincerely,



Chris Weiler

November 7, 2026

Cape Cod Commission
c/o Lisa Dillon, Commission Clerk
P.O. Box 226
3225 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Riverview School — Friends Together Phase 2 Housing DRI

Dear Director Senatori and Members of the Cape Cod Commission:

I am writing in strong support of Riverview School's proposal to convert the existing hotel into dedicated housing for Friends Together participants and the staff who will support them. This project is deeply personal.

I am the proud Mom of Maya, who is a current Riverview School student. Maya loves her Riverview community so much that she asked to give her high school graduation money gifts back to Riverview's annual fund campaign. No student had ever done that. She received a nice letter of acknowledgement from the school.

Maya is known for her positive attitude and outstanding work ethic. She will make a great employee! Maya also loves participating in chorus and the school play. This year she was very excited to be cast in the exact role she wanted.

Maya's upcoming transition into adulthood feels like the scariest and most important transition to me. I'm always worrying about where and how she'll live safely and as independently and meaningfully as possible. Like many Riverview families, I am forever grateful for Friends Together, and the addition of housing alongside the day program will be truly life changing for all.

Approval of the hotel conversion is essential to the Friends Together program commencing.

This housing is *not* an optional addition; it is fundamental to providing a home for participants and a reliable setting for the staff who will support them. Without approval, families like ours would lose access to a vital opportunity for continuity of care and support.

I respectfully urge the Cape Cod Commission to approve the proposed Phase 2 hotel conversion so Friends Together can move forward and provide the care, stability, and community that our loved ones need and deserve.

Sincerely,

Miranda Gualtieri
91 S Hampton Road
Amesbury, MA 01913

RECEIVED
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CAPE COD COMMISSION

November 5, 2026

Cape Cod Commission
c/o Lisa Dillon, Commission Clerk
P.O. Box 226
3225 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Riverview School — Friends Together Phase 2 Housing DRI

Dear Director Senatori and Members of the Cape Cod Commission:

We are writing in strong support of Riverview School's proposal to convert the existing hotel into dedicated housing for Friends Together participants and the staff who will support them. As the parent of a future Friends Together participant, this project is deeply personal to me and our family.

Our daughter Katie is in her final year at Riverview School where she has been a student for 9 years. These nine years have been transformative for Katie. She has been surrounded by educators who have supported her, encouraged her and allowed her to become the confident young woman she is today. She is currently in Project Search where she works 4 days a week at Spaulding Hospital in Sandwich. We consider ourselves incredibly blessed to live so close to Riverview School, a world recognized leader in education for neurodivergent individuals.

The transition into adulthood can bring tremendous uncertainty about housing, continued services, and day-to-day support. When we learned about the gift to create Friends Together, we no longer had to worry about what Katie will do after she turns 22. She will continue to have a community and purpose every day. Friends Together offers a much-needed opportunity for our child to have a stable home, meaningful connections, and the support necessary to live as independently and fully as possible.

Approval of the hotel conversion is essential to the Friends Together program commencing.

The number one thing that keeps parents of neurodivergent children awake at night is the thought of what happens when we are no longer here. Knowing that Katie will have a home surrounded by friends and staff is beyond what we dreamt of when she started at Riverview. We have lived in Sandwich for over 20 years and the housing at Friends Together will allow Katie to live independently while still close to us. This housing is ***not*** an optional addition; it is fundamental to providing a home for participants and a reliable setting for the staff who will support them.

I respectfully urge the Cape Cod Commission to approve the proposed Phase 2 hotel conversion so Friends Together can move forward and provide the care, stability, and community that our loved ones need and deserve.

Sincerely,
Tom Noble Barb Noble
Barb and Tom Noble
34 Chipman Road, Sandwich, MA 02563

RECEIVED
NOV - 9 2026
CAPE COD COMMISSION

November 2, 2026

Cape Cod Commission
c/o Lisa Dillon, Commission Clerk
P.O. Box 226
3225 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Riverview School — Friends Together Phase 2 Housing DRI

Dear Director Senatori and Members of the Cape Cod Commission:

My name is Elena Coln. I graduated from Riverview School in 2019 and live in Osterville Center. I am an artist and have my own Etsy business selling crochet and beaded items, which was the subject of a news story on Boston 25 a few years ago. I am also an apprentice at the Cotuit Center for the Arts Cape Cod CAN program.

I have been participating in Friends Together since it started last year. The activities are very fun and I especially like the art classes, movie nights, Friendship Circles, and "Foodie Friday" where we go to the store, pick out fruits, vegetables, and other things, and learn how to prepare them. I am very excited about the new home that is being built for Friends Together and looking forward to selling my crochet items in their store.

I hope you will approve Riverview School's proposal to convert the existing hotel into housing. It will mean that many of my friends can live nearby, so I will be able to hang out with them more. It will also be cool that some of my teachers from Riverview can live there and won't have to drive so far, because the traffic is sometimes a mess, especially in the summer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Elena Coln
171 Pine Lane, Unit 3
Osterville, MA. 02655

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NOV - 9 2026
CAPE COD COMMISSION

November 2, 2026

Cape Cod Commission
c/o Lisa Dillon, Commission Clerk
P.O. Box 226
3225 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Riverview School — Friends Together Phase 2 Housing DRI

Dear Director Senatori and Members of the Cape Cod Commission:

We are writing in strong support of Riverview School's proposal to convert the existing hotel into dedicated housing for Friends Together participants and the staff who will support them. As the parents of Elena who is an enthusiastic participant in the Friends Together pilot programs, this project is deeply personal to me and our family.

Elena is a 29-year-old young adult who graduated from Riverview School in 2019 and decided to make her home on the Cape afterwards. She is a talented artist who lives in Osterville and began attending programs at Friends Together last year. The array of high-quality programs, coupled with the outstanding staff, have made these a highlight of her week. They have improved her independence and self-confidence, and seeing the joy they bring to her has been an inspiration to our entire family.

For families of a loved one with special needs, the transition into adulthood brings tremendous uncertainties about housing, continued services, and day-to-day support. Friends Together understands Elena and supports her needs while respecting her desire for self-determination. It offers a much-needed opportunity for her to make meaningful connections, and to live as independently and fully as possible.

Approval of the hotel conversion is essential to the Friends Together program commencing.

This housing is ***not*** an optional addition; it is fundamental to providing a home for many of the participants and a reliable setting for the staff who will support them. Without approval, families like ours would lose access to a vital opportunity for continuity of care and support.

We respectfully urge the Cape Cod Commission to approve the proposed Phase 2 hotel conversion so Friends Together can move forward and provide the care, stability, and community that our loved ones need and deserve.

Sincerely,

Amy Weinstock and Michael Coln
33 Dawes Road
Lexington, MA. 02421

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