



Town of Lexington

Special Town Meeting 2020-2

Article 6: Authorize Special Legislation-Development Surcharge for Community Housing-Citizen

This article seeks Town Meeting approval to establish a surcharge on specific residential development activities for the purpose of funding affordable and community housing construction.

The Town has made it a priority within recent years to promote and maintain socioeconomic diversity, including diversity in its housing stock. However, the rising cost of single-family housing has made it nearly impossible for moderate-income families to find quality, affordable housing in Lexington. The adoption of this housing surcharge would create a permanent dedicated funding source to fund the development of low-and moderate-income housing.

If passed, this article would authorize the Select Board to petition Massachusetts General Court to enact legislation to enable this surcharge in the Town of Lexington, and further authorize the Select Board to approve amendments before its enactment.

The Select Board has 2 members who support passage of this Article and 1 who voted no and 1 who is waiting for Town Meeting discussion.