

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2022 9:17 AM
To: dwightsmith@nc.rr.com
Cc: Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver
Subject: RE: Proposed Budget and Tax Increase

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



Jeanette Coffin
Office Assistant
[Town of Chapel Hill Manager's Office](#)
[405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.](#)
[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

From: [dwightsmith@nc.rr.com](mailto:dwrightsmith@nc.rr.com) <[dwightsmith@nc.rr.com](mailto:dwrightsmith@nc.rr.com)>
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2022 7:27 AM
To: Manager <manager@townofchapelhill.org>
Cc: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>
Subject: Proposed Budget and Tax Increase

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

Mr. Jones

I just read about the your proposed budget and property tax increase for 2022-2023. I do not support **yet another** property tax increase and urge you and the Town Council to focus instead on fiscal restraint and responsibility through efficiencies and savings for our residents.

Dwight Smith
Chapel Hill

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Friday, May 06, 2022 11:55 AM
To: mariakakis@att.net
Cc: Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver
Subject: FW: Message from Website

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

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[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

From: info@townofchapelhill.org <info@townofchapelhill.org>
Sent: Friday, May 6, 2022 11:37 AM
To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>
Subject: Message from Website

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: Contact Mayor and Council
Date & Time: 05/06/2022 11:37 AM
Response #: 563
Submitter ID: 14262
IP address: 2602:304:958:d4c0:7133:4e7d:dc44:46d6

Survey Details

Page 1

Submit the form below or email mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org.

1. Name

Johnny Mariakakis

2. Residency*

I am a resident of Chapel Hill

3. Message

Dear Mayor Hemminger and the Town Council

I recently read the Town Manager is proposing a half cent tax hike on the Town's Budget.

I've lived in Chapel Hill my entire life. Because of my business (and former restaurant) I got to know many of its citizens. The tax rates have always steadily gone up year after year. The past mayors and Councils have approved dozens of new developments with the logic being these developments would increase the tax base and the tax revenues. The logic has not proved itself. I have witnessed many of my Chapel Hill friends, neighbors, and customers share with me their dislike of seeing these monstrous developments (these apartments resemble those of Communist East Germany back in the 50's and 60's). Many share with me they intend to sell and move because their high property taxes eat away at their family budget.

I own a Plaza that rents to five locally owned businesses. They have seen their operating expenses rise, and increased pass through taxes in their rent payments are challenging their ability to stay in business. And I wish to point out we are also in a flood plain and must cover rising flood insurance costs.

Our cardboard recycling fees have gone up, utilities are on the rise, and shipping charges are affecting us!

I know all of you pay property taxes as well, and don't wish to have your tax bills increased, but I felt compelled to share my concerns with all of you and make you aware to press the Town manager to reevaluate his request for a tax hike, to see if there areas to economize on the budget, and lower this hike if possible.

I do realize it's not easy, and a great challenge.

Wishing all of you well

Johnny Mariakakis
Citizen, tax payer, voter, and business owner.

4. If you would like us to contact you regarding this issue, please provide an email or telephone number.

mariakakis@att.net

Note: Mail sent to or received from the Town of Chapel Hill is subject to publication under the provisions of the North Carolina public records law.

Thank you,
Town of Chapel Hill, NC

This is an automated message generated by Granicus. Please do not reply directly to this email.

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 10:40 AM
To: Ruchir Vora
Cc: Phillip Fleischmann; Linda Smith; Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver
Subject: RE: Splash pad

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



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[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

From: Ruchir Vora <ruchir.is@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 9:18 AM
To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>
Subject: Fwd: Splash pad

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

Hi,

I think it's very strange that Chapel Hill does not have ANY parks without a splash pad. I think at least 3-4 parks need to have this amenity, and I encourage use of the American Rescue Plan Act dollars should be allocated for this project.

Thank you,
Ruchir Vora
522 Dogwood Dr, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 10:41 AM
To: Colie Taico Porter
Cc: Phillip Fleischmann; Linda Smith; Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver
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Again, thank you for your message.

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Jeanette Coffin



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(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

From: Colie Taico Porter <c.taico@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2022 2:18 PM
To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>
Subject: Splash pad

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

Hello,

I'm reaching out today to share how much our family would benefit from a local splash pad. As the summers have gotten hotter the outside options for safe and fun play have decreased. Having a splash pad would be a welcome addition to the small list of things my kids and I can do for longer than 20m during July and August.

I also think a splash pad would provide a fun and safe activity for members of our community who don't have access to a pool. The other splash pads in neighboring towns aren't accessible if you don't have a car and most of the pools in our

community aren't accessible if you don't make enough money for a summer pass. A splash pad would give many more families in our area the opportunity to be outside in the summer months and stay safe and cool while doing so. and

Thank you for considering allocating funds for this project! I think it would be highly utilized and loved by families from all over our sweet town If it is funded.

Colie Porter

--

Colie Taico Porter, LCSW, RYT

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[www.colietaico.com](http://www.colietaico.com)



## Amy Harvey

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**From:** Jeanette Coffin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2022 10:41 AM  
**To:** Sarah Reuning  
**Cc:** Colleen Willger; Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver  
**Subject:** RE: Future of the Legion property

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

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Sincerely,

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**From:** Sarah Reuning <sarah@sarahreuning.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 14, 2022 2:07 PM  
**To:** Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>  
**Subject:** Future of the Legion property

**External email:** Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to [reportspam@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:reportspam@townofchapelhill.org)

Mayor Hemmiger and Council members,

While I recognize the need for affordable housing in Chapel Hill, I strongly oppose developing any and all parts of the Legion property to address the housing shortage.

1) First and foremost, the Legion property is the last large green space in this section of Chapel Hill. There are no other comparable green spaces in this area. Once a natural area such as the Legion property is developed, it cannot be "undeveloped." The original ecosystem is lost.

2) Many Chapel Hill residents currently utilize the property. It is very popular with walkers and joggers. Students walk to and from Ephesus Elementary School via Legion property. The wooded trails provide shaded walking paths in the summer when excessive heat greatly restricts outdoor activities. Residents also bike, fish, and simply appreciate nature on the property. The East Chapel Hill High School Monarch Butterfly Club has planted a beautiful butterfly garden there. Numerous volunteers continue to nurture the property, removing invasive species and planting native wildflowers to encourage a healthier ecosystem. (See: [https://thelocalreporter.press/site-improvements-underway-at-legion-road-property-while-land-use-plans-remain-on-hold/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=site-improvements-underway-at-legion-road-property-while-land-use-plans-remain-on-hold](https://thelocalreporter.press/site-improvements-underway-at-legion-road-property-while-land-use-plans-remain-on-hold/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=site-improvements-underway-at-legion-road-property-while-land-use-plans-remain-on-hold))

3) Preserving the Legion property positively impacts the health of Chapel Hill residents. There are numerous health benefits for people who have regular access to natural areas. Simply being in nature lowers blood pressure, heart rate, and levels of stress hormones. Natural areas, especially those with trees, also reduce air pollution. The beneficial effect that the Legion property has on Chapel Hill's air quality becomes increasingly significant given the numerous apartment complexes and parking decks going up just minutes away. Think for a moment about the increase in cars and traffic to this area from the recent onslaught of development (from the Trilogy Apartment Complex, The Hartley, The Berkshire, etc.). Fuel emissions are bound to go up. We need to preserve natural areas to help mitigate the added pollution in our environment. Some of you campaigned with promises to protect the environment. Here's an opportunity to follow through.

Speaking of the recent development in this area, why wasn't affordable housing prioritized for those projects--projects that didn't threaten the last remaining large green space on this side of Chapel Hill? It seems to me that the town is only now realizing it erred tremendously on the side of luxury apartments at the expense of affordable housing. I urge you, don't try to fix one mistake with another. Developing the Legion property to offset the town's previous shortsightedness, would, itself, be short sighted.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Reuning  
Chapel Hill resident and active voter

## Amy Harvey

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**From:** Jeanette Coffin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2022 10:42 AM  
**To:** Mary Andrews  
**Cc:** Colleen Willger; Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver  
**Subject:** RE: The Legion Property

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

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[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)  
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

---

**From:** Mary Andrews <muandrews@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 14, 2022 10:55 AM  
**To:** Pam Hemminger <phemminger@townofchapelhill.org>; Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>; Manager <manager@townofchapelhill.org>  
**Subject:** The Legion Property

**External email:** Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to [reportspam@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:reportspam@townofchapelhill.org)

Dear Mayor Hemminger and Council and Maurice Jones,

Needing to save the Legion property goes back to before any of you were in your current positions. We residents have been concerned about the Legion property for years -- have walked it for years -- have lobbied for years -- have written for years -- have used our voices for years -- have weeded tirelessly -- to preserve the property as a park. Why, you ask?

We are in need of green space in this section of Chapel Hill. In desperate need. New to this area are:

Greenfield Place  
Berkshire Chapel Hill  
Elilott Square  
Trilogy Apartment Complex  
The Hartley  
New development north of Wegmans

How many new residents is that? How many more cars? How much green space has been set aside? Unfortunately, so unfortunately, no comparable green space has been set aside to support this density. Please think about the welfare of the future of this community.

We fully support and vote for affordable housing in Chapel Hill, but there are other options for affordable housing. There is no other option for green space in this eastern, densely populated part of our community. Making green space available addresses the needs of all levels of income, including the public housing right next door. For the good of our increasing population and for the ecological health of our town, **please save the Legion Park.**

Sincerely,  
Mary and Michael Andrews  
Fountain Ridge Rd

## Amy Harvey

---

**From:** Jeanette Coffin  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2022 10:42 AM  
**To:** [shillitorj@gmail.com](mailto:shillitorj@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** Colleen Willger; Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver  
**Subject:** FW: Message from Website

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[405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.](#)  
[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)  
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

---

**From:** [info@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:info@townofchapelhill.org) <[info@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:info@townofchapelhill.org)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 14, 2022 9:03 AM  
**To:** Town Council <[mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org)>  
**Subject:** Message from Website

**External email:** Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to [reportspam@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:reportspam@townofchapelhill.org)

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

**Form Name:** Contact Mayor and Council  
**Date & Time:** 05/14/2022 9:03 AM  
**Response #:** 566  
**Submitter ID:** 14286  
**IP address:** 2603:6080:6908:15df:893f:626e:f434:9630

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Survey Details

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Page 1

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Submit the form below or email [mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org).

**1. Name**

Ray Shillito

**2. Residency\***

I am a resident of Chapel Hill

**3. Message**

It appears that the Council is reneging on the plan to keep the Legion property as open space for everyone. Due to the the development on Ellis Rd and amount of growth in the "Blue Zone", and passing of which led to the ejection of the previous council and your election as Mayor and many of the council, the area is overpopulated for the amount of open space. South Chapel Hill has the Southern Park, whereas this area, in spite of its now density, has no significant public park open space. The Legion property is the last chance to provide such a possibility. It is only fair that this part of town is treated equally to the Southern Village and associated areas.

We understand the need for low income housing - housing is ridiculously expensive in Chapel Hill and surrounding area. However, we have rampant development with no effort by the council to enable and force these developments to provide such housing.

Thus I ask you to consider retaining all of this property as a park. The event that was held in November also showed how much the area is in need of a place to gather. We have a long standing resolution to keep the entire Legion Park property a natural open space to be used by the community.

Virginia Gray sent a petition in March or April asking the town to use part of the federal ARPA money to restore the dam, so that the pond could remain. It is a popular fishing and picnic spot. Unfortunately, it seems that we have not been loud enough to really get the council's attention. Remember the area around the Legion property were critical to your election, and we are a significant and active voting group should we be denied access to a park.

If buildings are built on this property, it automatically becomes "private". Public housing or not, buildings would not be open for us to just walk through like they were "public."

As a long time Chapel Hill Resident and Voter in EVERY election, I ask you to listen to the abused residents adjoining the "Blue Zone"

**4. If you would like us to contact you regarding this issue, please provide an email or telephone number.**

[shillitorj@gmail.com](mailto:shillitorj@gmail.com)

**Note: Mail sent to or received from the Town of Chapel Hill is subject to publication under the provisions of the North Carolina public records law.**

Thank you,  
Town of Chapel Hill, NC

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This is an automated message generated by Granicus. Please do not reply directly to this email.

## Amy Harvey

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**From:** Jeanette Coffin  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:06 AM  
**To:** [jgill@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:jgill@ifcmailbox.org)  
**Cc:** Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Bervely Joassaint; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Lauren Williams; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver  
**Subject:** FW: Comments on Behalf of IFC  
**Attachments:** JGillTown Council CommentsreIFC051822.docx

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



Jeanette Coffin  
Office Assistant  
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[405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.](#)  
[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)  
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

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**From:** Jennifer Gill <[jgill@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:jgill@ifcmailbox.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:15 PM  
**To:** Town Council <[mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org)>  
**Subject:** Comments on Behalf of IFC

**External email:** Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to [reportspam@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:reportspam@townofchapelhill.org)

Dear Mayor Hemminger and Chapel Hill Town Council Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of IFC at tonight's Town Council meeting. We are fortunate to find ourselves in this community. I regret that internet issues may have interfered with the ability to fully hear my remarks. By invitation, they are attached for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or for more information.

Sincerely,

Jennifer

**Jennifer Gill, MSW \*she|her**

Development & Communications Director

IFC | 110 W. Main Street | Carrboro, NC 27510 | 919.929.6380 x2031

[ifcweb.org](http://ifcweb.org) | FB: [@ifcforsocialservice](https://www.facebook.com/ifcforsocialservice) | T: [@ifcfors](https://www.instagram.com/ifcfors) | [Support IFC](#)

Thank you Council members. I'm Jennifer Gill, an IFC staff member.

In October 2020 we were about six months into the pandemic. Some IFC services were located in Old Town Hall on the corner of Rosemary and Columbia – a space that was provided rent-free to IFC by the Town of Chapel Hill. It was a chilly and wet October day for IFC's Walk to the Polls event. And it is a day I'll always remember because it's when I fully understood what IFC is all about.

Brand new to IFC's staff, I was conditioned to office work. I thought surely the event would be canceled due to weather. Nope. Instead, an unlikely group of staff, volunteers, and people who access IFC services donned rain gear and trickled into the parking lot, working together to stabilize and raise canopies under which we would gather.

As IFC's development director I'm proud to report that, for almost 60 years, this community has raised a roof for safe shelter: from HomeStart shelter for women to SECU Community House for men. During those 60 years, private donations have supported 70% of IFC's revenue. Wow. Thank you.

Today we face a 40% increase (from 2020-2021) in homelessness in our County, and 73% of people experiencing homelessness (in our County) are people of color. Amidst this painful reality, IFC is a beacon of hope. A pathway to resources for our neighbors experiencing hard times.

On that chilly wet day in October, we did walk to the polls. As a group of us walked down Franklin to vote, a man from another IFC group shouted gleefully to us from Chapel of the Cross, "I just voted for the first time!" to which we all clapped and shouted in congratulations. Many of us did not know each other. But we were bound by our relationship to IFC and a commitment to uplift each other, empower each other. People find this kind of community at our shelters every day.

A gift to IFC is actually a gift to our neighbors who need resources. IFC cannot continue to depend upon private support for 70% of our revenue. We need government to be a true partner, to help create equity in our own backyard, to be sure IFC offers services for the long haul. Please commit public funds in the Town budget to sustain IFC's shelters.

Thank you.