



Town of Fairhaven
Department of Marine Resources
Office of the Harbormaster

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October 1, 2024

To: Planning Board

From: Harbormaster, Timothy Cox

RE: 40R Proposal

- **Coastal Resilience and Sustainability:** The 40R development promotes smart growth and environmental sustainability, aligning with the Harbormaster's commitment to protecting coastal areas and enhancing resilience to rising sea levels and climate change.

- **Enhanced Public Access:** The 40R initiative provides opportunities for increased public access to waterfront areas, promoting recreational use and tourism, which supports the local economy and community engagement with the harbor.

- **Infrastructure and Resource Management:** All Town Departments have experienced budgetary constraints post-COVID. By guiding responsible development near water resources and other areas within town, 40R development promotes smart growth and is an opportunity for new revenues that would contribute to infrastructure improvements, such as stormwater management. The 40R smart growth aligns with harbor and marine conservation efforts, preserving Fairhaven's natural maritime assets.