MASSACHUSETTS SMART GROWTH ALLIANCE

January 10, 2012

Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo

State House Room 356
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Speaker,

As advocates for smart growth, sound planning, public health and sustainable development, we ask for your assistance in advancing S. 1019, the Comprehensive Land Use Reform and Partnership Act (CLURPA). This important legislation seeks to update antiquated planning and zoning laws to facilitate prompt and predictable permitting for jobs and housing, strong community planning, and natural resource and public health protection. We would like to see CLURPA advanced out of the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government this session.

On May 18th, the Committee heard overwhelmingly positive testimony regarding the need for zoning reform to be one of the issues the Legislature addresses this session to help make government more efficient and responsive. Having taken the summer to study the issue, the time has come for the Committee to take action by advancing this critical matter to the next stage in the legislative process.

Our organizations support CLURPA as the framework for zoning reform. We respectfully request that you show your support for CLURPA to the Municipalities and Regional Government Committee Chairs and communicate the importance of this balanced and reasonable proposal. Additional information regarding S. 1019 accompanies this request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Affleck-Childs, Planning and Economic Development Coordinator, Town of Medway (identification purposes only)
Douglas Albertson, Town Planner, Town of Belchertown
Diego Angarita, Food Systems and Youth Director, Nuestras Raíces (Holyoke)
Jay Ash, City Manager, City of Chelsea
Roland Bartl, AICP, Director, Planning Department, Town of Acton
Henry A Barton, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Executive Committee Member
Valerie Bassett, Executive Director, Massachusetts Public Health Association
Stuart Beckley, City Planner, City of Easthampton
Bedford Planning Board
Andrew Bisignani, Town Manager, City of Saugus
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Thomas Callahan, Executive Director, Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance
Richard Canale, Planning Board Chairman, Town of Lexington
Gino Carlucci, AICP, Planning Consultant and Town Planner, Town of Sherborn
Sean Caron, Director of Public Policy, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association
Tina P. Cassidy, Planning and Development Director, City of Beverly
Liz Sheehan Castro, Project Manager, Worcester Food & Active Living Policy Council
Dave Christopolis, Executive Director, Hilltown Community Development Corporation
Michelle Ciccolo, Director of Community Development, Town of Hudson
Jessica Collins, Director, Special Initiatives, Partners for a Healthier Community/Live Well Springfield
Ian Cooke, Executive Director, Neponset River Watershed Association
Steve Costello, Director, Community Planning and Economic Development, Town of Norwood
Dennis DiZoglio, Executive Director, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission
Marc Draisen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Lynn Duncan, AICP, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Salem
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Susan Falkoff, Councilor-at-Large, Town of Watertown
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D. Anthony Fields, Planning Director, Town of Burlington
Hector Figarella, Project Director, Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council
Anthony Flint, Author
Mary Giannetti, Director of Nutrition and Wellness, Fun n' FITchburg/Montachusett Opportunity Council
Nancy Goodman, Vice President for Policy, Environmental League of Massachusetts

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Suzanne Kennedy, Town Administrator, Town of Medway

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Joan LeBlanc, Saugus River Watershed Council

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Reverend Bill Loesch, BOLD Teens/Codman Square Health Council

Dr. Russell Lopez, Northeastern University

Peter Lowitt, FAICP, Director, Devens Enterprise Commission

Steve Magoon, Director, Community Development and Planning, Town of Watertown

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Kathleen Marcin, Lowell Downtown Neighborhood Association

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Maryann McCall-Taylor, Planning Director, Town of Lexington

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Heather McMann, Executive Director, Groundwork Lawrence

Stephanie Mercandetti, Economic Development and Grants Officer, Town of Walpole (identification purposes only)

Steve Miller, LivableStreets Alliance

Deirdra Murphy, Healthy Weight Task Force, Greater Lowell Health Alliance

John Nunnari, Executive Director, American Institute of Architects – Massachusetts

James O'Connell, Chair, Zoning Reform Working Group

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Sarah Parmenter, Community Health Specialist, Southeast Center for Healthy Communities

Allyson Perron, Senior Government Relations Director, American Heart/Stroke Association

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Marcie Ricker, Planning Coordinator, Town of Hamilton
Dr. Anna Rosenquist, MD, American Academy of Pediatrics, Massachusetts Chapter
William Roth, President, the Massachusetts Association of Planning Directors
Joel Russell, Principal, Joel Russell Associates
Jennifer Ryan, Legislative Director, Mass Audubon
Priscilla Ryder, Conservation Officer, City of Marlborough
Sarkis Sarkisian, Town Planner, Town of Wayland
Cheryl Sbarra, Senior Staff Attorney, Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
Mayor William Scanlon, City of Beverly
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Stephen Winslow, Bike to the Sea, Inc.
Robert L. Zimmerman, Jr., Executive Director, Charles River Watershed Association
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