

April 22, 2019

To: Durham Planning Board
Michael Behrendt, Town Planner

From: Bill Cote
21 Littlehale Rd.
Durham

Re: Proposed Parking Changes in RA and RB

I have recently become aware of the board's proposed changes in off-street parking that, in my opinion, would be detrimental to residential neighborhoods. Over the years, efforts have been made both by the Town Council and the Planning Board to reduce impacts on neighborhoods caused by rental units. I highlight the specific section which concerns me:

Maximum Spaces. There shall be no more than 3 parking spaces for a dwelling unit located in the Residence A and Residence B Districts, not including the parking spaces situated on a single-lane driveway or within a garage or required parking for an accessory dwelling unit/apartment or home occupation. More than 3 parking spaces may be established if approved as a special exception subject to the general special exception criteria contained in Section 175-26 and a finding that the proposed parking spaces are serving the on-site dwelling(s) only.

As I interpret this section, it seems to permit a parking arrangement that could accommodate, by right, some 5 – 6 vehicles. In my case, I house my 2 vehicles in my garage and have a wide turnaround. Am I correct in assuming I could accommodate an additional 3 cars in that turnaround? If so, would this not allow the leasing of spaces to others? This is a very slippery slope and I urge the board to rescind this section and, if desired, develop a suitable plan that doesn't impact our neighborhoods.

Thank you.

