

From: Mary Ellen Judge
To: [Comp Plan Update](#)
Subject: Affordable housing
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After reading the article in the Journal about trying to make affordable housing available, I had some thoughts I'd like to share...you said to think outside the box, so here goes! (I also have a granddaughter who wants to move here, but can't afford or find housing)

The Buck property, consisting of 40 acres, seems to be an ideal opportunity to develop for affordable housing. Ideas are:

*provide half acre lots for sale for people to build tiny houses. I think the idea of ownership would be appealing, and the town could carry the mortgages with favorable interest loans, perhaps working with local banks. This would give the town some income while helping people out..a "win-win" situation.

*Have one or two community wells, because people looking for affordable housing can't afford the in-town price of water/sewer. This again would require working with the town and water district, but it's doable. The town would have to issue a variance regarding the water...

* Provide a community area with a laundry, possibly a small meeting building/library, similar to the Mullis Center, but on a smaller scale.

* Possibly set aside a garden area for raising, veggies.

I understand that my ideas would require variances, the town, water district, banks, possibly architects for parts of it, all working together. But I think people are willing to donate time and services to make affordable housing a reality. Instead of an attitude of "We can't do such and such because of regulations", how about, "We can apply for variances or exceptions to make this work"?

I'm not an architect or city planner, I'm a retired school principal, but would be happy to offer my services, or grunt work, whatever is needed. Hope these ideas have some merit, maybe will lead to further ideas! The article in the paper sounded as though people were frustrated and looking for anything which might work.

Please feel free to contact me!

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