

## **Save our neighborhood**

We are writing in response to the zoning amendment that has been proposed to make it possible for the new owners of the Fox Hill estate, the for-profit Fox Hill Real Estate LLC, to do a business deal with a non-profit, Massachusetts-based hospital so the hospital can run a high-end alcohol and substance abuse treatment facility for up to 16 wealthy, out-of-state clients who will pay tens of thousands of dollars for their four to six-week stay.

We have lived in the Fox Hill neighborhood for 41 years. This residential neighborhood was set up by people who cared about its future and hoped families would live there for generations. And they have. Why are we considering this? We don't understand how this proposal has merit. Fox Hill (formerly the Borden Cottage) has been a very nice home since 1903. It is surrounded by a lot of other very nice homes. We all bought our homes knowing, or thinking we knew, that they were located in a residential neighborhood. How is it that a group of investors can come to town and proposed putting a business in the middle of our neighborhood, threatening the quality of this neighborhood that we love, and the tangible and intangible investments we have in our homes?

We know some of you will say we have a bad case of NIMBY. But really, would you want this type of special interest zoning change made in your neighborhood or your back yard? There are no guarantees in this zoning change. The investors can't guarantee that the hospital they are negotiating with will actually be the final tenant; that the investment group won't sell the property once the zoning change has been received — either to another investment group or to the non-profit hospital; or that the hospital will be successful and not break their lease. The only thing that seems to be guaranteed if this zoning change is approved, is there will be a commercial enterprise at Fox Hill and our neighborhood will never be the same.

Please, do not allow that to happen. Please urge the planning board members to say no to the zoning change.

Ken and Nancy Carlton  
Camden and New York