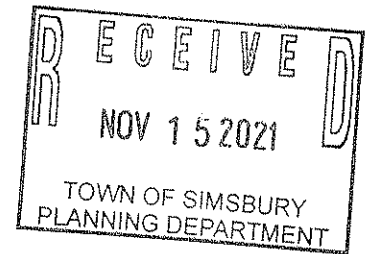


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To: Simsbury Zoning Commission (jhollis@simsbury-ct.gov)
cc: Michael Glidden (mglidden@simsbury-ct.gov)
From: Rick Brush and Suzanne Gordon
Date: November 15, 2021
Subject: Opt in to Public Act 21-29 Concerning Accessory Apartments (ADUs) and Parking Standards in Simsbury

Good evening, Simsbury Zoning Commission,

As Simsbury residents since 2002, we are adding our voices to the many community members speaking out in support of CT Public Act 21-29, which provides easier, fairer and more equitable paths to accessory apartments, also known as accessory dwelling units or ADUs.

We strongly urge the Zoning Commission to stand together in affirming Simsbury's full support of this important statewide legislation. It is good for our town and it was passed through a fair and democratic process by state legislators acting on behalf of the people who elected them. We ask that you "opt in" and vote against any application to opt out of this legislation.

You'll hear from many Simsbury neighbors tonight about the significant benefits of these new regulations. For example:

- Expanding "naturally affordable" housing without sprawl that threatens our environment;
- Helping our loved ones to live close by while maintaining their independent lifestyle, whether it's grandparents, recent college grads or family members living with intellectual and developmental disabilities;
- And allowing homeowners to increase their income and their wealth by boosting resale values.

Let it not be lost in this discussion, which can get rather technical and impersonal, that what we are really talking about are homes. Let's remove barriers and expand opportunities for people of all ages, incomes, abilities, races and ethnicities to call Simsbury home.

This decision alone will not completely address our need for affordable housing. But it is a worthy and consequential step that sends a message to current and prospective residents that Simsbury is open, inclusive and welcoming to all.