

May 2, 2012

Supervisor Warren Lucas
Members of the North Salem Town Board
266 Titicus Road
North Salem, NY 10560

Re: Bridleside

Dear Warren and Board Members,

This letter is written to you stating our opposition to changes in the plan for 65 units near the North Salem Middle/High School, euphemistically titled "Bridleside."

We have owned our historic house here since 1976, raised our family here, sent our children to public school here, been leaders in half a dozen community organizations here, and we have retired here.

The planning that has been established by hard working citizens of North Salem, with comprehensive input from residents of the town and all town agencies, meets the goals that have been established.

This new scheme is drastically different, creating an all-rental complex for low-income tenants. This is what is called a "Bait and Switch" tactic. It is not what North Salem wants and it isn't what North Salem needs.

The change in concept from buying to renting for the whole complex would mean a drastic change in the quality of life in the neighborhood. Renters have little stake in their community as a whole or their environs. They have no buy-in, no personal monetary investment at stake. The numbers of people involved are also out of scale for our small town.

Our little town of 5000 residents has a broad range of available housing to all. There are sufficient rentals over many price ranges. There are one and two bedroom houses for purchase at very low cost, a wide range throughout the town of houses for purchase under \$500,000 and a good range of houses in every price range over \$500,000 throughout the town. No one is excluded from living here.

Affordable housing is available in North Salem and the Comprehensive Plan sets out further areas for development.

The changes under discussion are not "Fair" housing for anyone. Creating distinct low income pockets (ghettos) should not be anyone's goal.

Stick to the original plan. Do not be bullied by anyone person or agency cloaked in the guise of "Fair" housing or "Affordable" housing. They have a different agenda of profit or mandates that do not pertain to what is happening in North Salem. They should be told to take their "Bait and Switch" scheme to the "Unfair Housing Development Hall of Shame."

Sincerely,

Gail and Sal Pantezzi, 669 Titicus Road, North Salem, New York

Copy: North Salem Planning Board