

EAST ARLINGTON 
Livable Streets Coalition

**35 Varnum Street
Arlington, MA 02474**

Sept. 7, 2011

Laura Wiener
Arlington Planning and Community Development
Town Hall
Arlington, MA 02476

Re: Support for Town of Arlington Application for Sustainable Communities Place-Based Planning

Ms. Wiener:

The East Arlington Livable Streets (EALS) Coalition is a neighborhood-based advocacy organization founded in 2008. EALS has almost 250 supporters on our e-mail list, over 475 fans on our Facebook page and we aspire to become the neighborhood's voice on transportation and livability-related issues. Residents throughout East Arlington have been strong supporters of the initiatives that the Town has taken to improve the sustainability and livability of our neighborhoods. We are writing to express our support for the Town's application for sustainable communities place-based planning.

Arlington is a great community to live in; many of our supporters were attracted to the area because of its accessibility to metro Boston, friendly neighborhoods, and excellent neighborhood schools. Our organization is doing our part to make Arlington a more sustainable community focusing mostly on transportation issues. However, if Arlington is going to be a model sustainable community the town needs to develop a long term plan to identify the goals of residents and a long term vision.

We are hopeful that if this grant were awarded to the Town of Arlington it could be used to engage residents in public dialogue and help shape our public policy for years to come. It is time for a Master Plan that takes into account sustainability and livability of our town. We whole heartedly endorse the Town's application for this grant.

Sincerely,

Chad Gibson and Phil Goff, EALS Co-chairs

Cc: Carol Kowalski, Town of Arlington Director of Community Planning

Brian Sullivan, Town Manager, Town of Arlington

Gail McCormick, Sustainable Arlington