

***VOTE FOR A REAL TOWN CENTER AND YES ON 37.***

***By Betty Gallo***

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**A Truro Overlay District**

To the editor:

I live in the middle of the proposed Highland Shore Overlay District (HSOD) in Truro. I love my neighborhood and believe this overlay district can make it even better. I hope voters will support it in Article 37 at town meeting on May 16.

An overlay allows a town to modify zoning regulations in a portion of an existing zoning district. The proposed HSOD recognizes the differences among the separate parts of the area and their unique history. The three subdistricts are responsive to current conditions while permitting appropriate, limited commercial and other uses.

The HSOD can help create a vibrant, walkable area that will encourage small shops, restaurants, and a variety of housing opportunities that are in scale with what exists today. In the long term, it can make this area a real town center — which has been lacking in Truro and on the longtime wish list of those who live and visit here.

The zoning task force that created the HSOD did extensive outreach. It held listening sessions and listened. Many of the suggestions of residents were incorporated into the proposed overlay.

Change will be slow. We are talking about an area that is already developed; this is a road map for the future of this wonderful neighborhood.

Betty Gallo  
Truro

*The writer is chair of the Truro Housing Authority but writes here as an individual*