STOP “THE RETREAT”!
START A TOWN-WIDE SOLUTION!

We support our Amherst neighbors and share their concern that more and more neighborhoods are suffering the negative consequences of off-campus student housing—noise, destruction of property, and decreasing property values—while real estate investors and developers are amassing profits. How can residents participate in shaping the future of our neighborhoods?

“The Retreat”—191 houses and shared buildings for 700 students planned for rural Cushman Village by Georgia developer Landmark Properties—is the latest example of big business interests taking precedence over the concerns of taxpayers in long-established neighborhoods.

Isolating students in a mammoth development at the outskirts of town will not solve the town’s student housing problems. Rather, a concentration of students in one place has been shown to increase the strain on town services in response to large, out-of-control gatherings and will further tax our infrastructure.

A Town-Wide Solution—It’s time for Amherst residents to devise a carefully planned, comprehensive, town-wide solution to the off-campus housing problem. No community need be sacrificed!

Should we suspend student housing development and conversions, while we assess the efforts of the Town of Amherst and UMass to deal with the pressures of off-campus housing and student behavior? Can we see how Town Meeting responds to the Coalition of Amherst Neighborhoods’ article on the warrant and give the Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods proposal time for discussion?

We in the Cushman neighborhoods see our efforts as part of the growing momentum toward a town-wide solution to the off-campus housing crisis in Amherst.

For more information about Cushman’s fight against Landmark Properties’ “Retreat” please visit our website
www.SaveHistoricCushman.com