

Ira Bryck <ira@irabryck.com>
Wed 10/20/2021 12:35 PM

To: Planning Department Email; Brestrup, Christine; Malloy, Nathaniel
Cc: **Town Council Members**; Bockelman, Paul

To the Amherst, Mass Planning Board and Planning Department,

In planning for a new garage in our central business district,
please consider:

- Might it make more sense to plan first, before changing the zoning?
- Might it make more sense to ponder the past studies about parking and garages in downtown Amherst
- Might it be good to seriously look at the damage to the abutting historic neighborhood, of cars emptying out onto North Prospect Street?
- Might it make more sense to collect more wisdom of the crowd, aka the community of Amherst?
- Might it be helpful to proclaim in an ironclad way what you will not allow in a garage at that location, if it turned out to be the winning location? (damaging the quiet enjoyment of the neighborhood, and how the design elements might do that?)
- How additional parking would be for people shopping, dining, and doing business downtown, or visiting friends downtown; instead of more parking by people that live in buildings with inadequate or non-existent parking?
- How there are examples of appealing garages, that would add to our town's beauty, instead of detract?
- Might it be good to determine if you are simply disregarding the recommendations of the parking studies that have already been done, to maximize what we already have?

It is your job to consider the downstream consequences and true costs of all you enable and allow. I hope you will do that. Please do that.

Sincerely,

Ira Bryck