

**From:** [Bill Bannon](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Cc:** [rota@tedfordhousing.org](mailto:rota@tedfordhousing.org)  
**Subject:** Public Hearing Jan. 11 on Tedford's new building  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:29:21 AM

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Mr. Panfil

Thank you in advance for accepting the comments below regarding Tedford Housing's application for final site plan review and conditional use of their proposed new emergency housing (shelter) building.

Bill Bannon

P.S. My apologies if you received this more than once. I received an error message after the first attempt,

**In Support of new Tedford Housing Facility  
Brunswick Planning & Development Hearing  
January 11, 2022**

JF hurt himself on his job with a Circus required traveling over the Northeast a few years ago. He wasn't re-hired the next year, perhaps as result of the injury that caused him to walk with a limp. He took courses to get his GED and attended job related training at the Department of Labor. He became an acquaintance when I provided transportation for his various appointments when he lived at the Tedford Housing facility on Cumberland Street. When I last saw him, he was in the process of reuniting with family in another part of Maine. He is so fortunate to have Tedford at that time in his life when he was working to improve his life.

This past week, I have seen people walking down the tracks near the food pantry and Gathering Place on Tenney Way, where at least some may live this winter. Others have been for quite some time. As you may know, unfortunately one person died there in recent years.

I strongly recommend that you vote in favor of the Tedford Housing's request so more have the opportunities JF had as a result of having housing as he set out to improve his lot. It is doubtful to me that without that housing, it would have been extremely difficult for him to do so. Many others who apply for housing at Tedford now must be turned down due to lack of space. More people facing dire circumstance through no fault of their own, similar to JF, can also have significantly greater opportunity to make their lives better as well when the new facility is open.

William J. Bannon  
1 Willow Grove Road  
Brunswick, Maine

Cc: Rota Knott, Tedford Housing

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**From:** [Carolyn H. Eklund](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Cc:** [Carolyn Eklund](#)  
**Subject:** Comment in favor of Tedford Housing, Inc. Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 10:32:29 AM

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Dear Matt,

It's good to see that the Planning Board will vote on this project tonight. I spoke at the Town Council in favor of the former plan a few years ago. I am writing to support the current plan that you will vote on tonight.

The need for expanded housing and good access to shopping and services for those in Brunswick who have no home is critical. The current proposal is in a great area, is appropriate in size and, most importantly, expands and upgrades housing for families and individuals who find themselves without shelter or permanent housing. As a pastor of St. Paul's Church in the heart of Brunswick, my congregation and I are called by our faith to help relieve suffering of our neighbors. In fact, on one of the coldest nights of the year, we are reminded that housing and shelter are of primary human survival concerns. We support financially and with volunteers all the services that help people in need around Brunswick and beyond. Indeed, our church has helped to found MCHPP, The Gathering Place and Tedford Housing. Please share my support for this project with the Planning Board.

Many thanks,

The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund, Rector

St. Paul's Church (on the corner of Pleasant and Union Streets for over 175 years)

27 Pleasant Street

P. O. Box 195

Brunswick, ME. 04011

207-725-5342

**From:** [wdclark](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Subject:** planning board discussion and vote  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 2:35:05 PM

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Dear Planning Board,

I write to express my support for the proposal to increase Tedford Shelter's emergency housing capacity by building a new facility in the Cooks Corner area. This expansion of Tedford's services is long overdue, and our community can no longer postpone the action needed to improve services for those among us who are struggling with being unhoused.

No one believes that this expanded facility will be a solution to the lack of affordable housing in Brunswick, but perhaps a few more people can be helped to stay safe (alive!) until our community can organize to create affordable housing for those who need it.

Many thanks for your hard work.

Cathey Cyrus  
36 Longfellow Avenue  
Brunswick

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**From:** [Donna Chale](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Tedford Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 12:45:28 PM

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To the members of the Brunswick Planning Board,

I strongly support the site plan and conditional use approval for a new Tedford Housing facility to be located at Cook's Corner. The new location will provide residents of the shelter access to transportation, services, and resources. It will also allow staff and administration adequate working space close to those they serve. As the mission of the organization is to move people from homelessness to homes there are many benefits to having close proximity to those requiring that help. Current facilities for residents and staff are both outdated and decentralized. The new plan addresses both concerns.

As recent history has demonstrated, Brunswick residents, like others in the country, are often just a natural disaster, medical emergency, or job loss away from homelessness. Faced with a fire, hurricane, car accident, or business closing many of us could need emergency shelter. Building this facility will result in our citizens having the benefit of a resource to address this need available in our town. The new plan addresses the needs of families and individuals.

I urge you to approve this plan.

[Donna Chale](#)  
[8 Pepperberry Path](#)  
[Brunswick](#)

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**From:** [Ellen Asherman](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#); [Phyllis Chinlund](#); [Poppy Arford](#); [Diana Lohse](#); [Newton Clark](#); [Rota Knott, Tedford Housing](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Tedford Housing  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 2:28:36 PM

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Taking a different tack, I would suggest that anyone questioning or opposing the need for this new shelter just stand outside for ten minutes and feel what HOURS without adequate protection would be like. Tonight will provide a perfect opportunity.!

The new building will greatly expand and improve the services which Tedford Housing can extend to the homeless of our area - above all, shelter from our frigid winters.

Please give your wholehearted support to this exciting opportunity for Brunswick folks less fortunate than us.

Ellen Asherman  
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**From:** [Jamie Pacheco](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Tedford Housing Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 4:13:11 PM

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Hi!

I am a business owner and property owner in Brunswick.

I am writing in **support of Tedford Housing's** application for a new and expanded shelter/resource center on Thomas Point Rd. This location has the added benefit of putting those experiencing homelessness in proximity to public transit, grocery options, employment opportunities, and healthcare facilities.

Brunswick is one of Maine's largest communities (top 10 according to 2020 Census), we have an obligation to support individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness. Homelessness is one car repair, one lost job, or one sick family member closer to many of us than we (collectively) seem to recognize. We must work to address the issues that put people in such vulnerable positions, and support them as they work towards stability. Ignoring the "problem" of homelessness does not make it go away. Access to housing, and especially supportive housing, is the most efficient, and cost effective way of addressing homelessness in our community.

Thanks for your time,

Jamie Pacheco

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**From:** [Joanne Rosenthal](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Subject:** In support of Tedford Housing  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 4:04:08 PM

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To the Planning Board:

I urge final approval of Tedford Housing's final site plan review for the proposed emergency housing building. There is no question that emergency shelter is desperately needed in this area and the plan put forth by Tedford is well conceived. Without such shelter, countless adults, children, teens and elders will experience prolonged suffering. Brunswick can make a difference in the lives of many. Please do the right thing and vote to approve Tedford's plan.

Sincerely,  
Joanne Rosenthal  
Brunswick

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**From:** [Lisa Trombley](#)  
**To:** [alison@harbart.net](mailto:alison@harbart.net); [ABoulay@strategictalentmgmt.com](mailto:ABoulay@strategictalentmgmt.com); [arthur@arthurpierce.us](mailto:arthur@arthurpierce.us); [billdana2@comcast.net](mailto:billdana2@comcast.net); [jarbuckle@mcht.org](mailto:jarbuckle@mcht.org); [matzens2@gmail.com](mailto:matzens2@gmail.com); [rburgess250@comcast.net](mailto:rburgess250@comcast.net); [osbmo4@gmail.com](mailto:osbmo4@gmail.com); [sandeupdegraph@gmail.com](mailto:sandeupdegraph@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [John Eldridge](mailto:JohnEldridge); [t.burns@brunswickme.org](mailto:t.burns@brunswickme.org); [Julie Erdman](mailto:JulieErdman); [Matt Panfil](mailto:MattPanfil)  
**Subject:** Tedford Housing Conditional use permit  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:42:18 AM

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To Whom it may concern,

I hope this email finds you well on this chilly day. I am writing to you today in regards to the Planning Board meeting occurring tonight. More specifically, to oppose the conditional use permit for the Tedford Housing Shelter.

While many have opposed this structure, I would like to bring attention to Chapter 5-Section 5.2 Section B, number 4 of the Town's zoning ordinances which states, "The proposed use shall not create any more adverse impacts on any current use or structure within 300 feet of the lot on which the proposed use or structure would be located."

As an adjacent property owner, I have many concerns regarding property values with written evidence that the development of the Tedford Facility will adversely impact our property value. These concerns are shared with other local property owners.jel

Due to the constraints regarding comments at tonight's meeting, I ask that you consider this fact prior to and further discuss said impacts of the Tedford Shelter on local homeowners at the meeting tonight.

Thank you for your time and any consideration in this matter.

Best,  
Lisa Trombley

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**From:** [Mark Publicker](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Cc:** [Rota Knott, Tedford Housing](#)  
**Subject:** Tonight's Planning Board Meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 2:24:27 PM

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Unfortunately I am unavailable to participate in tonight's meeting. Please accept my written testimony.  
Thank you,

*Mark Publicker, MD*

January 11, 2022

My name is Mark Publicker. I'm a physician whose practice extends from Cumberland to Lincoln Counties. Nearly every day I hear from my patients of their housing crises and threat of homelessness. Previously stable housing is lost as owners sell in the booming real estate market. Sometimes my patients and their children are forced to live in their cars (see yesterday's Press Herald story). Many of my patients work two jobs but rentals are scarce and when available are beyond the ability to pay. I am enormously grateful to Tedford for making emergency shelter with case management available to desperate homeless people. Tedford has needed to turn away hundreds of people seeking emergency shelter; its current space is limited to 16 beds. As a community we cannot accept homelessness and hunger, we can't turn our backs on such suffering. I ask that you approve the zoning needed to allow Tedford to move forward with its new facility and continue and expand its remarkable work.

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Good evening. My name is Claire Berkowitz. I'm a Bath resident and serve as the President/CEO of Midcoast Maine Community Action (MMCA). Our agency connects the midcoast community with resources and support services that promote health and quality of life, education and economic independence. MMCA also strives to support regional activities which encourage economic sustainability and social equity within the midcoast area. That's why I'm here tonight – to support Tedford Housing and their goal to build a new facility that puts their emergency housing, administrative offices, and case management services under one roof on Thomas Point Road.

Tedford Housing is a close community partner of MMCA, as our staff work closely together to support individuals and families living in need of housing. We often combine resources to cover a security deposit or a rent payment so that people can stay or become housed.

I believe the proposed location is ideal for many reasons, but I'll highlight one tonight. MMCA provides early care and education services in Brunswick at our Head Start and Early Head Start Center located at 35 Gurnet Road. Eligibility for Head Start is based on income and family size however there are multiple levels of eligibility. TANF, Supplemental Security Income recipients, children in foster, and children who are homeless automatically qualify. So, young children who are residing in Tedford's emergency housing are eligible for enrollment in our Early Head Start and Head Start programs.

The new location would allow families living in emergency housing to walk their kids to our facility where they will receive high quality care and education, family support services, and referrals to other programs, including WIC, a food benefit and nutrition program specifically designed for women and children.

As others have mentioned, the new location is close to other resources, such as health care and educational opportunities and the Career Center at Brunswick Landing. Tedford might be located in Brunswick, but it serves the midcoast region. The new location will strengthen our partnership with Tedford and more importantly, better serve the midcoast residents living in emergency housing.

Thank you.

**From:** [Claire Berkowitz](#)  
**To:** [Matt Panfil](#)  
**Cc:** [rota@tedfordhousing.org](mailto:rota@tedfordhousing.org)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Comments in support of Tedford Housing's plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 1:10:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[tedford\\_planning\\_board\\_comments\\_mmca.pdf](#)

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Hi Matt,

I'm unable to attend the planning board meeting tonight and wanted to make sure that my support for the Tedford project is received. I submitted this statement back in September, so it's already in the public record. But I wanted to remind everyone of Midcoast Maine Community Action's strong support of Tedford's plan to expand their services in a new location.

All the best,  
Claire Berkowitz

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**From:** Claire Berkowitz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 28, 2021 7:58:00 PM  
**To:** mpanfil@brunswickme.org <mpanfil@brunswickme.org>  
**Subject:** Comments in support of Tedford Housing's plan

Dear Matt,

I'm watching the Planning Board meeting over Zoom tonight and I'm not sure if I will get a chance to make public comments. If I can't speak publicly, I'm attaching my remarks here so that you and members of the Planning Board have my thoughts as this process moves forward.

Thanks so much,  
Claire

**Claire Berkowitz** (she/her/hers)  
President/CEO

**Midcoast Maine Community Action**  
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34 Wing Farm Parkway, Bath, ME 04530  
[www.midcoastcommunityaction.org](http://www.midcoastcommunityaction.org)  
[claire.berkowitz@mmcacorp.org](mailto:claire.berkowitz@mmcacorp.org)

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