



Town of Tisbury  
Office of the Town Administrator  
51 Spring Street, P.O. Box 1239  
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568  
(Tel. 508-696-4203)

January 29, 2020

Phil Hale, President  
James Hale, Vice President  
Martha's Vineyard Shipyard  
P.O. Box 1119  
164 Beach Road  
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

RE: M.V. Shipyard Redevelopment Proposal

Dear Gentlemen:

Following your presentation to the Board of Selectmen on January 7, 2020, the Selectmen want to express their strong support for your project.

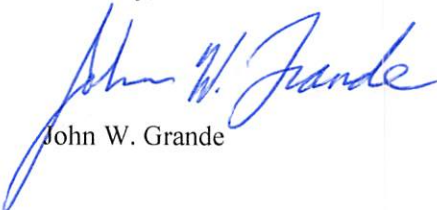
The Selectmen are pleased to see your investment and confidence in Tisbury's and the Island's future. Your strategic vision for your business reminds us of our priorities as a maritime community with the goal of maintaining the working waterfront as viable and prosperous. You provide a vital service to boat owners. You provide employment to a sizable workforce. You do this in an environmentally responsible manner.

Specifically, the Selectmen applaud the ongoing investment and the adaptation of operational practices and the equipment you have installed that reduce adverse impacts on the environment. The submitted site design for your proposal is environmentally sensitive because it proposes to increase pervious surface area and provide vegetated swales to control the rate, volume and quality of stormwater runoff into adjacent waterways in acknowledgement of the town's concerns with water quality and mitigating the flood hazard in this area. The project is under review by no less than nine local, state and federal agencies and we expect them to require a net improvement over existing environmental conditions. The site design also provides improved onsite and intra-site traffic circulation to substantially reduce existing traffic conflicts. We have also reviewed correspondence that raises concerns about water quality and impacts of this project on shellfish and finfish in the Lagoon Pond. Because we share these concerns, the town continues to put programs in place to better manage stormwater pollutants and contributions of nitrogen in groundwater. We are pleased that your project recognizes these issues as well and have made offers to participate in these mitigation efforts. We welcome these offers and would likewise expect similar participation from the many upcoming proposed projects in the area. The Lagoon Pond needs all of us in its watershed and around the island to join in the effort to return this pond to health.

The town partnership opportunities and the offers you have voluntarily put forth respond to the priority of needs for Tisbury. Your investment in building and site improvements, increased employment, both temporary and permanent, and the anticipated increased tax revenue is vitally important to the Town of Tisbury. The successful redevelopment of your property and other properties in this waterfront area represent the single greatest opportunity for increased economic health for the town, which is the Selectmen's economic goal and vision for the waterfront dependent businesses in Tisbury.

If we can offer you further assistance and support, please let us know. Your success is critical to preserving a viable and prosperous working waterfront for the Island.

Sincerely,

  
John W. Grande