

## Listening Better to Voters on Growth and Spending

April 24, 2026

Dear Editor,

Would any sensible, necessary or budget-friendly development be rejected by our community? Probably not. However, what we are seeing is an insidious stratagem to implement non-essential and expensive development plans that are out of sync with the nature and size of Truro.

For example, why hasn't the new DPW been reduced in size and cost after so much community push-back? Shockingly, the Town is looking for an additional \$1M for a \$29M facility that hasn't even secured funding yet. And who is all this housing for? Truro has projects and approved plans to almost meet its affordable housing quota. Yet, a current citizen's petition up for vote at the Annual Town Meeting, to plan and monitor building development in Truro, has already received a negative reception from the Select Board.

It's clear that the Select Board has been trying to enforce state directives for some time, spinning and defending their agenda to make sure we buy into what they are selling, such as insisting that Town vehicles be in a heated garage to help finance their new DPW with its bloated price tag. What is most concerning is that the requirement to follow state policies have devolved into deliberate scheming to secure an outcome.

Is the Board really that short-sighted that it cannot see how out of touch their agenda is, or the crushing tax burden that all this development will levy on the residents? Why are we seeing this rabid insistence to carry through this development agenda—against our wishes and concerns? It seems the Truro community's only role is to fund projects the Select Board proposes. Otherwise we have no say. In all this, one thing is clear: the Select Board has abandoned its responsibility and turned its back on the community.

Regards,

Stefanie O'Neill  
Truro