



WHISTLE STOP #1
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While a full version of The Whistle comes out every two weeks, this Wednesday I am making a short “whistle stop” to respond to comments and questions generated by our debut column.

First, I believe it’s important to clear up a misconception. I am, indeed, in favor of affordable housing. You can find my statements in the public record a number of times on this topic. Here is an excerpt sent to the mayor and council on July 26, 2022:

“We have always agreed about needing affordable housing. However, how we get there makes all the difference in the world. I have yet to hear a single concise thread about how that will be accomplished. At the same time, I’ve heard members of the council lament that they don’t know what to say to constituents who don’t get the density model being laid out by you all at the city - and how it connects to affordable housing... The affordable housing issue is complex, difficult and your solution is not clearly articulated or prepared. I remain unconvinced the actions you are taking are doing anything other than creating significantly tighter density and dwellings for the privileged - many of whom live out of town or live here sporadically.”

The Whistle team is currently working on upcoming columns on affordable housing to build community understanding and conversation that will hopefully generate ideas and solutions.

On a personal note, I am a little stunned and deeply heartened by the amount of support I’ve received regarding the need for The Whistle and my qualifications as editor. You can always learn more at LWhistle.com. Thank you and let’s keep whistling!