## Your voice matters!

If you're interested in expressing your support of the local control of planning and zoning, a letter to the editor of your local paper is a great place to start. (An <u>op-ed</u> can also be helpful!) Here are some tips:

## Where to Start

- Look on the website of your local paper for: (a) a Letter to the form, or (b) an email address.
- Or, check out links to larger papers: <u>Stamford Advocate</u>, <u>New Haven</u> <u>Register</u>, <u>Hartford Courant</u>. Submit also to the CT Register
- Some newspaper contacts:

The Connecticut Mirror

Courant

The Day

Danbury News Times

pstern@ctmirror.org

opinion@courant.com

letters@theday.com

Letters@newstimes.com

CT Post <u>edit@ctpost.com</u>

Greenwich Time <u>editorials@scni.com</u>

Stamford Advocate <u>Letters</u>.advocate@scni.com

New Haven Registerletters@nhregister.comCT Examinerletters@ctexaminer.comCT News Junkiectnewsjunkie@gmail.com

Meriden Record Journal newsroom@record-journal.com

Norwalk Hour letters@thehour.com

Manchester Inquirer letters@journalinquirer.com

Waterbury Republican American <a href="mailto:opinion@rep-am.com">opinion@rep-am.com</a>
The Newtown Bee <a href="mailto:EDITOR@THEBEE.COM">EDITOR@THEBEE.COM</a>

The Middletown Press <u>Cassandra.Day@hearstmediact.com</u>
The Bulletin <u>rhackett@norwichbulletin.com</u>

## **Writing A Letter**

- Be concise: most papers limit LTEs to 300 words or less.
- Check out our Power Point for topics of interest to write about
- Make it personal: write about why you want to keep local planning and zoning decision making, why your voice at public hearings matters on individual projects in your community, and why the bills do not create

- affordability, do not protect the environment, and will overwhelm the local infrastructure and increase local property taxes.
- Emphasize the overall goal: inclusivity begins by engaging ALL STAKEHOLDERS in creating sound zoning policy. We need representation of local P&Z leaders of cities, suburbs and rural towns statewide as well as soils, sanitation, conservation and environmental specialists to create effective legislation that will properly address affordability.
- At the same time, cite specifics, including our resources on <u>CT169Strong.org!</u>

## **Tone Matters!**

- Be civil and assume that people who have different views are expressing those views in good faith.
- Point readers to our <u>website</u> to learn more about the concepts in the bills, the fair share calculator, etc.