

Hello Essex neighbors,

I know we are all deeply distracted by the election but I am asking for input on something else very important to our community.

The Selectboard is looking for feedback on the proposed merger charter. (You can find the current version of the charter on page 3 of this link:

https://www.essexvt.org/.../ViewFile/Agenda/_11022020-1036. We're working on a direct link. See https://www.greateressex2020.org for more info about merger.)

We have listening sessions scheduled tomorrow (11/2) and 11/16, both at 6:30pm. Please consider sharing your thoughts--whether you support merger or if you have questions/doubts or don't support it.

As many know, there has been a great deal of anti-merger pushback from a very small number of people who attend SB meetings, are very vocal on FB and FPF, and have been pamphleteering in our neighborhoods. Their actions have caused others to avoid sharing their opinions.

Please don't let the loud opinions of a very small minority prevent you from telling your elected representatives what you're thinking. WE REALLY NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU.

If you can't attend the online listening sessions, you can also email us your thoughts:

Elaine Haney: ehaney@essex.org Patrick Murray: pmurray@essex.org Vince Franco vfranco@essex.org Andy Watts: awatts@essex.org

Dawn Hill-Fleury: dhillfleury@essex.org

If you are interested, I would be happy to Zoom to you for a conversation about merger in a safe environment where you can share your honest thoughts without concern for reprisal of any kind. I know that Pat Murray is also willing to Zoom with interested residents too. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors too! Email me and/or Pat directly to schedule.

Thank you very, very much for taking the time to read this and to share your thoughts. We really need to hear from more residents, especially those who haven't spoken up yet.
