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Re: A statement from the Office of the Town Administrator

We appreciate the work of the Courts, but are disappointed by the overly technical use of the term “adjacent”.

The intent of the MBTA Communities Act was to develop transit-oriented housing. If a Middleton resident were to visit Governor Healey on Beacon Hill it would require an hour and a half walk without sidewalks to a bus stop in Danvers, to catch a 45-minute bus ride to Lynn, to catch a 30-minute Commuter Rail ride to North Station, followed by a 20-minute walk up Beacon Hill. The total trip would be over 3 hours one-way.

If that 6+ round trip journey via a single out of town bus stop is considered adjacent – by any definition – I believe the Commonwealth has a lot of soul searching to do as we work together to develop transit-oriented housing in Massachusetts.

Warmly,

Justin Sultzbach
Town Administrator