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## Forward.

The gradual changes that have taken place in Sag Harbor over the years have respected its history both in terms of architectural style, as well as the types of establishments that can be found in the Main Street shopping district. The Village has a rich culture, with a diversity and scale that has allowed it to remain personal and inviting to residents and visitors alike. Sag Harbor contains theaters (both live and film), museums, art galleries, restaurants, offices, personal service shops and retail shopping. The presence of the waterfront is obvious throughout the commercial district, with Long Wharf and Marine Park lying as the northerly anchor to commercial district.

Sag Harbor is vibrant, and alive with local people using daily the services, shops and restaurants found within the core commercial area. A visit to the commercial district during the evening in the summertime is a testament to this vibrancy. There is a synergy with respect to the commercial district, The “whole” appears to be greater than the sum of its “parts”. The streets are busy with commerce.

The commercial district of Sag Harbor has not yet been visited by the gradual changes that appear to be occurring in other East End Villages, where high-end retail, financial services and real estate offices have replaced the local, friendly, small-scale retail shops . . . although external pressures appear to be mounting that could cause such a change.

It is essential that the types of uses and their diversity be protected as a resource, in order to maintain the historic character and the truly special sense of place one experiences in the Village of Sag Harbor.

*The Village of Sag Harbor is a special place.*