



Concerns of the Community.

Over the past 12 months, there has been a growing concern among residents and Village officials alike about the increase in development pressures and potential trends in the Village. The Sag Harbor Chamber of Commerce, along with various citizens and environmental groups (such as CONPOSH, the Sag Harbor Noyack Citizen's Advisory Committee, the Sag Harbor Progressive Coalition, and the Group for the East End) have spoken publicly about the concerns of the development pressures and changes threatening to change the very fabric of the Village.

Petitions have been submitted to the Village asking for action on the part of the Board of Trustees. At the August 14, 2007 Trustees meeting, a petition signed by hundreds of individuals submitted to the Board of Trustees under the heading of "Save Sag Harbor" states that:

"...the undersigned wish to express our grave concern regarding recent

developments in our village:

“1) Efforts by a major chain store, CVS, to take over the existing leases at 30 Long Island Avenue, evicting more than a dozen tenants, including 7-11, East End Computer, In-Balance/Studio Pilates, and Personal Best.

“2) Efforts by other absentee landlords to raise rents at precipitous rates and break existing leases, in an order to clear the way for new chain-store franchises;

“3) Reported efforts by outside franchises like Ralph Lauren and Dunkin Donuts (and others) in acquiring real estate locations in Sag Harbor.

“We ask that the Village Board make full use of existing law and where necessary to enact new laws to regulate this activity.

“We urgently appeal to the Mayor of the Village of Sag Harbor and to the Village Board of Trustees to vigorously defend our community against aggressive development by chain stores and business franchises.”

In contrast, the Village has received separately a petition signed by business owners and commercial property owners who have requested the Village Board of Trustees use caution in developing restrictions that would manage future growth in the Village. They ask that it not be taken too far - to an extreme - where the conversion of one commercial use to another becomes unwieldy or impracticable.