



What do you think Belmont can do to become more business-friendly and increase its commercial tax revenue but still be known as the "town of homes"?

Our local businesses are part of what make Belmont such a great place to live, and they also diversify our overwhelmingly residential tax base. We must act creatively to expand our commercial tax base in a controlled way, while retaining our character as a “Town of Homes”. Together, we can do that.

There are a number of ways that Belmont can act to reach these goals:

- Streamline our permitting processes, and reduce bureaucratic hurdles to help businesses get moving.
- Leverage transportation projects, such as the Community Path, to bring people to our business centers.
- Have predictable rules and regulations so everybody knows what to do and what to expect.
- Bring shuttered and underutilized properties back on the tax rolls.
- Revisit our zoning ordinance to allow some commercial development in areas where we want it, and to prevent commercial development in areas where we don't.
- Bring back the liquor license advisory board to get politics out of the liquor licensing process.
- Attract a hotel to bring in the benefit of triple tax revenue from property, rooming and meals taxes, which are paid by people from out of town.

Whatever we do will require an inclusive, open process with businesses and residents. I have done this in my law practice, and I can help make it happen in Belmont.

As a small business owner myself, I understand the challenges facing local enterprises. As your Selectman, I will act to ensure that our small businesses and residents can thrive together.