# TOWN OF TRURO PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Truro Planning Board will hold a public hearing, pursuant to G.L.c.40A at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at the Truro Town Hall located at 24 Town Hall Road, Truro to consider an amendment to the Town of Truro Zoning Bylaws, Section 40.2. The proposed changes include removing the Planning Board as the Permit Granting Authority under Section 40.2. The complete text of the amendment is available for public viewing at the Town Clerk's Office and the Planning Department Office located at Truro Town Hall, 24 Town Hall Road, Truro from 8 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday, and at www.truro-ma.gov.

Steven Sollog, Chair Truro Planning Board



ARTICLE XXX: AMEND SECTION 40, SPECIAL REGULATIONS, §40.2
AFFORDABLE ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT BY DELETING IN ITS
ENTIRETY AND REPLACING IT WITH NEW LANGUAGE To see if the town
will vote to amend Section 40, Special Regulations, §40.2 Affordable Accessory
Dwelling Unit, by deleting the language in bold strike through, adding the red lettered
wording and enumerate the bylaw correctly accordingly

## §40.2 Accessory Dwelling Unit

### A. The purposes of this bylaw are to:

- 1. Increase the number of moderately priced, year-round rental dwelling units in Truro;
- 2. Encourage a more economical and energy-efficient use of the Town's housing supply; and
- 3. Provide homeowners with a means of obtaining rental income to defray housing costs.

#### B. Requirements

- 1. One Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) per buildable lot may be allowed in any zoning district by obtaining an ADU Permit from the Planning Board.
- 2. An ADU may be established within or attached to a principal dwelling, principal structure, or accessory structure, or constructed as a detached unit, and must be located on the same lot as the primary dwelling.
- 3. The ADU must be in conformity with the State Building Code, Title V of the State Sanitary Code and all applicable town health, building, zoning and other local laws and regulations.
- 4. An ADU within or attached to a principal dwelling, principal structure or accessory structure that is a pre-existing nonconforming use or structure shall not increase any existing nonconformity or create a new nonconformity without first obtaining a Permit or Variance, respectively, from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

#### C. ADU Permit Criteria

- 1. The ADU shall be a complete, separate housekeeping unit containing both kitchen and sanitary facilities.
- 2. The ADU shall not contain more than one thousand (1,000) square feet nor less than four hundred (400) square feet of Gross Floor Area as that term is defined in Section II of this Zoning By-law. Once an ADU has been added to a dwelling, structure or lot, the ADU shall not be enlarged beyond the square footage specified in the permit granted pursuant to this section without first obtaining a subsequent permit from the Planning Board, and in no case shall an ADU be permitted to exceed the square footage allowed by this section.

- 3. At least two (2) off street parking spaces in addition to parking otherwise required for the property is required for an ADU.
- 4. An ADU shall be clearly subordinate in use, size and design to the principal dwelling or structure, considering the following: building architectural details, roof design, building spacing and orientation, building sereening, door and window size and location, and building materials. When accessory to a principal dwelling, the intent is to retain the appearance of a single-family dwelling and the privacy of abutters.
- 5. The principal dwelling and ADU and lot on which they are located shall remain in common ownership, and shall not be severed in ownership, including that the lot, buildings or units thereon shall not be placed in a condominium form of ownership.
- 6. Either the ADU or the principal dwelling on a lot with an ADU must be leased for a term of at least twelve (12) months. Rental of said unit for a period of less than twelve (12) months (including, but not limited to, seasonal rental and rental through vacation rental services and websites) is prohibited. Proof of year-round rental shall be provided annually to the Building Commissioner by the owner in the form of a lease and a signed affidavit from both the owner and renter stating the unit is being rented accordingly and is used as a primary residence.
- 7. ADUs permitted under this section shall be inspected annually or as frequently as deemed necessary by the Health and Building Departments for compliance with public safety and public health codes. The owner of the property shall be responsible for scheduling such inspection and shall pay any applicable inspection fees.

#### D. Procedure

- Each application for a Permit shall be filed by the Applicant with the Town Clerk Building Inspector consisting of:
  - a. An original and 14 copies of the Application for ADU Permit;
  - b. 15 copies of the required plans and other required information under §40,2;
  - c. Applicable filing fee;
  - d. List of abutters obtained from the Truro Assessing Department
  - e. Site Plan or Site and Sewage Plan prepared by a registered professional engineer or registered sanitarian showing all property lines, existing and proposed structures on the parcel, and setbacks from roads and property lines for each structure. Building dimensions (height, stories, square footage) shall be shown on the plan.
  - f. Documentation of approval of the septic/wastewater treatment system from the Board of Health.
  - g. Building plans at a scale of no less than 1/8"= I'-0", including floor plans and front, side and rear elevations of the ADU and

principal dwelling or structure.

- h. Affidavit declaring that the ADU and/or principal dwelling to which it is accessory will be rented on a twelve month basis.
- 1. Documentation of approval, if applicable, from the Conservation Commission.
- J. Documentation of Special Permit or Variance, if applicable, from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

#### E Public Hearing

- 1. Upon receipt of the application by the Truro Town Clerk, the Planning Board shall hold a duly noticed public hearing within 65 days of said filing. The Board shall:
  - a. Give notice by advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Truro, no less than ten (10) days before the day of such hearing; and,
  - b. Give notice by posting such notice in a conspicuous place in the Town Hall for a period of not less than ten (10) days before the day of such hearing; and.
  - c. Give notice by mailing a copy of such advertisement to abutters to the subject property, abutters to abutters within 300 feet of the subject property, and owners of properties across the street from the subject property.

# F. Findings of the Planning Board

- 1. The Planning Board shall grant an ADU Permit if it finds that the proposal complies with the provisions of this bylaw, §40.2, as amended. The concurring vote of four members of the Planning Board shall approve an ADU permit as submitted or with reasonable conditions. The Board shall deny the permit only if:
  - a. The application is incomplete, and the applicant fails to complete the application within 21 days after written notice of the application's deficiencies, or
  - b. The imposition of reasonable conditions will not ensure that the ADU will conform to the standards and criteria described herein, or
- c. The ADU does not comply with the requirements of the Zoning By-law.

  The permit decision is not appealable.

#### G. Penalty

Failure of the applicant to comply with any provision of this section or the Permit is punishable by a fine established in Section 60.1 of the Truro Zoning By-laws and shall entitle the **Planning Board**, Building Inspector after notice and public hearing, to revoke, modify or suspend the Permit. The Town shall be entitled to recover its litigation fees, including counsel fees, incurred in enforcement of this Bylaw.

H. Requirements for Tax Exemption
Qualifying ADUs permitted under this section are eligible to seek tax

abatement pursuant to Chapter I, Section 10 of the Truro General Bylaws, Tax Exemption for Affordable Accessory Dwelling Units.

Planning Board Recommendation: Board of Selectmen Recommendation:

Comment: This is a citizen petitioned article. This article was created to allow homeowners to build or convert an existing building to one (1) accessory dwelling unit on their property with the provision that it be rented year round as opposed to seasonally. This will benefit the community by increasing the opportunities for young people to afford to live in town, enable elderly residents to downsize or rent a portion of their home and will help create a more well-rounded community. There is a segment of the community that carns more than allows them to qualify for affordable housing yet don't make enough to afford a home. This bylaw will allow residents to create opportunities for this segment of society to live in Truro. This change will remove the planning board from the process, allowing property owners to build ADUs as a "by right" designation meaning if it fits on your property without infringing on other zoning or health regulations, you can proceed without hearings and additional costs associated with filings.

