

EMAIL / LETTER

Dear Commissioner _____,

A recent article in the Chatham News + Record mentioned the possibility of enacting an Article 46 tax – a one quarter percent sales tax increase – for Chatham County. This tax has been enacted in the majority of our neighboring counties. It is currently estimated that an Article 46 tax in Chatham County would have resulted in close to 1.6 million dollars last year. It is my understanding that in order for this Article 46 tax to be incurred, it is recommended that the county pass a resolution to define how the funds will be utilized.

I am writing to request that you consider designating at least a portion of the proposed Article 46 tax to create a dedicated funding source for affordable housing.

Chatham County is predicted to grow faster than any other county in the Triangle in coming years, and there is already a dire need for affordable housing in our community. 41% of renter households in Chatham County are cost burdened (i.e. they spend more than 30% of income on rent & utilities). As of April 2019, the median home value in Chatham County is \$292,500, while the median list price for the same month is \$475,000. It is impossible for many of our county's residents to afford to live in our community – a problem that will become exponentially worse as our county grows.

I am deeply concerned about the lack of affordable housing in our community, and the lack of a dedicated funding source to support creative, innovative solutions. I ask that you take bold action to address this issue by designating a portion of the proposed Article 46 tax to affordable housing.

With gratitude,

Name

Address

Phone Number