October 3, 2017

Cape Cod Commission
Attn: Jonathon Idman
3225 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Eastham District of Critical Planning Concern

Dear Members of the Cape Cod Commission:

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) writes to express support for the proposed designation of the Eastham District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC). The proposed DCPC will assist Eastham in addressing several critical planning issues that will determine the future character of the town as well as the town’s ability to protect sensitive water resources areas. The DCPC designation will enable the town to:

- Improve traffic congestion and safety along this section of the Route 6 Outer Cape corridor, including the potential to reduce the excessive number of existing curb cuts and limit future curb cuts within the DCPC.
- Develop a plan to manage future growth and protect community character. With concerns over the potential for the new town water system to stimulate additional growth that is not properly managed, Eastham can use the DCPC to adopt strategies that guide development and redevelopment in an appropriate manner that preserves and enhances community character, creates mixed use, village style development/redevelopment and generates more affordable housing.
- Reduce water quality impacts to the nitrogen-impaired Salt Pond subembayment, which is part of the Nauset Harbor watershed, through upgrades in stormwater management that include treatment for nitrogen. The town has the opportunity to also adopt new regulations that help mitigate future nitrogen loading impacts to the watershed by addressing wastewater discharges, reducing the amount of impervious surfaces, and minimizing turf size and, therefore, fertilizer use.

APCC urges the Cape Cod Commission to recommend designation of the Eastham DCPC, which will aid in the development of a comprehensive planning strategy to benefit the town and the region.

Sincerely,

Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director