

Nancy Kramer

From: Jennifer Roby <jennifer.w.robby@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2015 5:13 PM
To: Nancy Kramer
Subject: To the Selectboard

Dear Members of the Selectboard,

I am writing to express concern about advertising in our public spaces, specifically on utility poles and lamp posts.

On Tuesday, November 17, the town installed more than twenty (double-sided) commercial banners, that run from Ledyard Bridge, to the entrance of town, and up to the Norwich Public Library. This installation raises several issues, but I would like to focus on one in particular: the incremental negative effect of commercialization on our village.

Marketing in our public spaces chips away at our town's historic and cultural heart: our village center.

It doesn't seem appropriate to me to use public space--or public funds--to market commercial enterprises, even if the sponsoring organizations are well-regarded non-profits.

I urge the town to examine its policy on banners and formulate guidelines that preserve what we so value: the simple, commercial-free beauty of our village.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Roby
380 Main Street