



East Orleans Main Street Historic District Study Committee
19 School Street, Orleans, MA 02653

October 13, 2023

Dear Property Owner(s):

As you have learned in a prior mailing, the Select Board has appointed an East Orleans Main Street Historic District Study Committee (Study Committee) that is tasked with exploring options for better preserving the historic character of Main Street in East Orleans.

Included with this letter is a questionnaire. We on the Study Committee would now like to hear your input into establishing a local historic district along the 1.2-mile stretch of Main Street between Rt. 28 and the intersection with Beach and Barley Neck Roads.

Well over half of all cities and towns in Massachusetts have local historic districts, including Eastham, Wellfleet, Provincetown, Harwich and Chatham. A regional historic district, Old King's Highway, also protects portions of Orleans, Brewster and other mid-Cape towns. **Unlike these other districts, the proposed historic district on Main Street in Orleans would be limited to demolition, new construction, and additions.**

We can be very thankful that close to 50 buildings from our town's past still remain intact along Main Street in East Orleans. However, without a local historic district, the historic character of this important streetscape could slowly be lost through alterations, demolitions and new construction. A local historic district would foster awareness of Orleans's history, help to guide future changes, and ensure that the historic character of Main Street in East Orleans remains intact.

Please take a few minutes to fill out our short questionnaire, and return it to the Study Committee in the envelope provided. Thank you for your time. We look forward to hearing from you. If you'd prefer to complete the questionnaire online, please send an email to HDStudyComm@town.orleans.ma.us and request a link.

East Orleans Main Street Historic District Study Committee:

Joan Nix, Chair
Ron Petersen, Vice-Chair
Francis Mustaro, Secretary
Charles Ellis
Edmund Marcarelli

William Wibel