

I just finished reading the article in the MV Times concerning the Committee's meeting with South Mountain and the company's subsequent decision to withdraw from the 401 State Road project.

I'm sorry I wasn't able to be at the Select Board's meeting on Wednesday where this was discussed. I would have liked a definition of "disrespectful". As I recall the meeting with the representatives from South Mountain and IHT were largely cordial. There were areas of disagreement, but I think that should be expected for a project his large.

The Committee worked long and hard on the RFP. In addition, there was a great deal of input from the Town Administrator and abutters. The dismissal of many of the suggestions and requirement put forth by the Committee would seem to be disrespectful to those who put in the effort to produce the RFP.

In any event, I would be interested in the identification of those Committee members that Mr. Abrams thought that this is an "---important project, etc. etc." and those members "---who were just slamming etc. etc." For example, I think this is an important project, but I don't recall "slamming" (whatever that means). I did offer some criticism, but if that amounts to "slamming", apparently I am unclear as to what criticism means. This is a multimillion dollar project that the Town is undertaking. If South Mountain is unwilling to accept the Town's input, perhaps it's just as well that they withdrew from the project.

Finally, I have been a member of the Committee for quite a while. In all that time, through a number of projects, the Committee has functioned as a single unit, working with contractors, abutters and others to produce elegant projects. Mr. Abrams' efforts to separate the Committee into two camps is unwelcome. The members may not always agree with each other but our mission has always been to serve the community and produce affordable housing for residents of West Tisbury.

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