

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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December 16, 2021

Tom Hollinger, Chairman
Historic District Commission
Town of Washington
P.O. Box 383
Washington Depot, CT 06794

Dear Mr. Hollinger,

I am writing on behalf of the First Congregational Church in support of our neighbor on the Green, The Frederick Gunn School, and their proposed Center for Innovation and Active Citizenship. We applaud their goals to promote the historic significance of its founder, Frederick Gunn.

The school is proposing a new building that will provide classroom and laboratory space for its science, math, and engineering programs, its Center for Citizenship and Just Democracy, and its Entrepreneurship Program. The school and its programs have grown significantly since the current Science Building was designed.

One of our church's core values is respect for the earth and our environment, and the new center will be a carbon-neutral building, designed to use far less energy, supporting the school's overall commitment to sustainability and Mr. Gunn's love of the natural world. We support the school's efforts to be a good steward of our natural community.

We hope the commission views this proposal as we do – an excellent contribution to our community.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Robyn Gray, Ph.D., Pastor
First Congregational Church of Washington