

From: [Erica Podgorni](#)
To: [Valerie Oorthuys](#)
Subject: Firearms Business Zoning Bylaw
Date: Sunday, March 5, 2023 9:39:06 AM
Attachments: [We found suspicious links.msg](#)

Hi Ms. Oorthuys,

I am a Littleton resident and I am writing to you to share my concern about the potential for an influx of gun dealers to Stow. You may be aware of the [Boston Globe article](#) that identified 83 gun dealers in the Mill in Littleton.

Thankfully, Littleton has now passed a [Firearms Business Zoning Bylaw](#) which clearly outlines where in town such businesses can be located. While this bylaw does not impact the businesses at the Mill, the Mill has been sold and there are plans to tear down the building in the next year or so. Once these gun dealers are evicted from the Mill, they will need to comply with our new bylaw and there will not be room in town for 83 dealers. Many dealers will be looking for space in surrounding towns.

If Stow does not yet have a zoning bylaw for this type of business, I believe it would be in the best interest of the town to begin the process so that you will have some control over where in town these businesses can operate. Westford has also begun the process of developing a firearms business bylaw.

Our town counsel used recently adopted language from Newton and Wellesley bylaws as a guide. I have attached them below along with a model ordinance from the Giffords Law Center. Allison Anderman (aanderman@giffords.org) at the Giffords Law Center was very helpful. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Erica Podgorni

[Newton Firearms Business Bylaw](#)
[Wellesley Commercial Gun Shop Bylaw](#)