

I am writing to express my opinions on Thrive and ZTA. I do think it is important to separate the two so here goes:

- Thrive—I think this is the perfect example of a very good idea in theory gone wrong in practice. I agree with many of the macro concepts expressed by Thrive especially the ability to be within walking distances of amenities, something that hits very close to my proverbial home as I had to give up driving over nine years ago due to Macular Degeneration in both eyes. However, something as overarching as Thrive must cover all bases. Where is the addressing of schools? Where is the addressing of creating more walking paths (if you are going to use a determination of “as the crow flies” then shouldn’t there be paths that allow one to walk as such?) and what about the lighting of paths? Additionally, so much has changed and been impacted by the COVID pandemic. We have no idea what the lasting implications will be. Many of the assumptions of Thrive are based on out of date information and data. Bottom line, I think Thrive should be paused until we have fully emerged from the COVID pandemic. Only then should it be revisited if we have updated data/information and if it encompasses all aspects and especially schools.
- ZTA—this needs to be stopped, killed, buried, and never brought to life again. As you may be able to tell, I feel very strongly here. Nothing in ZTA will enable a teacher, police officer, firefighter, etc. to buy a home in Somerset. This is a money grab by those in the real estate sector.

Thankyou very much!

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