48 FEDERAL ST, U304 RE/MAX LEADING EDGE







LIST PRICE \$229,900

Discover this historic coastal community on the North Shore, with excellent access to major routes to Boston including the Commuter Rail. 48 Federal St is sited in the "heart" of Beverly. With a Walk Score of 90, hip shops, cafes and restaurants are just outside your door making this a walker's and commuter's paradise. Top floor unit, beautifully illuminated through the oversized windows, offers spacious, open-concept living and dining room graced by hardwood floors. A generous bedroom with warm, comfortable wall to wall carpet and excellent storage awaits. Granite counters, stainless appliances and an efficient layout make meal prep a breeze in the updated kitchen. In unit washer and dryer. Garage parking, ample closet space all found in an elevatored building! It's time to enjoy your maintenance free lifestyle here in Beverly!

KIM IZZI

AGENT EXPERTISE TEAM 617.763.4034 Kimizzi@LeadingEdgeAgents.com AgentExpertise.com

RE/MAX LEADING EDGE 536 Main Street, Melrose | 781.979.0100



48 FEDERAL ST, UNIT 304 | BEVERLY



Living/Dining Room	21x13	1st	HWF
Kitchen	8x8	1st	HWF
Master Bedroom	17×13	1st	w/w
Bathroom	Full	1st	ст

Condo Fee Includes: Water/Sewer, Master Insurance, Elevator, Exterior Maintenance, Landscaping, Snow Removal, Refuse Removal and Reserve Funds

Style	Condo Garden
Year Built	2005
Rooms	3
Bedrooms	1
Bathrooms	1 Full
Living Area	815 sq/ft
Lot Size	o

Color	Tan		
Exterior	Vinyl		
Roof	Asphalt	2005	
Fireplace	No		
Parking	1c Garage		

AC	Yes Central
Heat	FHA Gas
Hot Water	Electric
Sump Pump	N/A
Electric	СВ
Sewer/Water	City/Town
School	Apply
Range	Yes Gas
Dishwasher	Yes SS
Disposal	Yes
Microwave	Yes
Laundry Connection	Yes In-Unit

Condo Fee	\$302/Monthly
Owner Occupied	18 of 19 Units 96%
Condo % Interest	5.42%
Pet Policy	Pet Friendly
Condo Questionnaire	No
Special Assessments	No
Management Co.	James Sears, 978.777.2104
Assessed Value	\$201,300
Annual Tax	\$2,737.68
Monthly Tax	\$228.14
Master Book/Page	25218/265
Master Deed Date	12/22/2005

Exclusions: See Inclusion/Exclusion Sheet. Disclosures: Room measurements are estimated and vary between listing info & floor plans. The unit is developer-held, Buyer agrees to place 2 months of condo fees into the association account at closing and also reimburse the developer for prepaid Master Insurance. We ask that anyone who wants to make an offer read our letter on offers and home inspections (visit AgentExpertise.com). This home, like all of our properties, is being sold "as is". Buyers need to understand that a home inspection is not done so that buyers can ask sellers to compensate them for the perfect house, but to ensure that buyers know what problems they should expect to address during their ownership; make offers accordingly. We mean it and will negotiate for radon & active termites ONLY. Some lenders & pre-approvals are problematic; please contact us for reliable lenders. When making offers please attach RE/MAX Leading Edge Rider which states that only a mutually agreeable purchase and sale will act as a binding agreement and purchase is not contingent on the sale of any assets.

BUYER'S INITIALS

RE/MAX LEADING EDGE CONSUMER PROTECTION PLAN



Address 48 Federal St, Unit 304, Beverly MA

This contract to purchase is expressly conditioned upon the execution of a mutually acceptable Purchase and Sale Agreement, in form and substance approved by both parties' attorneys, unless waived, which when agreed upon and signed, will become the contract between the parties. Until the expiration of this agreement, the parties will each make a good faith effort to achieve a mutually acceptable Purchase and Sale Agreement. Meanwhile, the seller will not accept another offer during the pendency of the Contract to Purchase. It is RE/MAX Leading Edge's policy not to release the executed Contract to Purchase if listing agent is not in possession of good faith deposit, fully executed lead paint disclosure (if built before 1978), fully executed Seller's Description of Property (if provided by seller), agency disclosure and satisfactory bank letter or verification of funds, if cash.

This RE/MAX Leading Edge Consumer Protection Plan shall be incorporated into the Purchase and Sale Agreement referred to herein. Time is of the essence.

Initial One:

The following shall be deemed added to the end of the paragraph contained in the Contract to Purchase regarding financing: The buyer acknowledges and agrees that Buyer's obligation to purchase the premises is not, in any way, contingent upon the sale of any of Buyer's assets. In the event that Buyer receives a mortgage commitment conditioned upon the sale of any of Buyer's assets or is denied financing because of Buyer's inability or failure to sell any assets, it is agreed that such conditional commitment or denial of financing, shall not, in any way, be deemed just cause for termination of this Contract and/or any subsequent Purchase and Sale Agreement and shall not entitle Buyer to a return of Buyer's deposit.

OR

This offer is contingent on the sale of Buyer's assets (Real Property or other)

The Buyer is urged to conduct independent investigations through his/her attorney, through town officials, such as tax assessors, zoning and building departments, and the Board of Health or through a home inspector, etc. to verify any such information, including but not limited to the age of the home or its components, square footage and borders of the house lot; square footage of the home, zoning type; condition and age of mechanical and electrical systems, annual taxes, condition of home, idiosyncrasies of the neighborhood abutting the home; past and present structural problems of the home including problems with the roof or basement; the title to the property, etc. Buyer understands that information provided by Broker is based on information supplied by others and Brokers do not have personal knowledge of the matters relayed.

Parties agree to the following:

- The purchase and sale agreement will stipulate how oil will be adjusted by the parties, either by buyer reimbursing seller for remaining oil or seller gifting it to buyer at closing.
- All parties agree to deliver all requested information to lender no later than 10 business days prior
 to scheduled closing, unless another date will comply with lending and closing attorney policies
 which will be noted in the Purchase and Sale. (Utilities such as final municipal water, sewer,
 electrical and gas; rents, security deposit, 6D last month's rent; commission statement etc, if
 applicable).

• Complete if applicable: the con	do or HOA fee is	\$per month and/	or \$per year.
 Complete if applicable: a porting Agent's Firm by the Buyer in \$ 			
 No claim, counterclaim or cau required by Buyer's Lender p SELLER against BUYER or by this RE/MAX Leading Edge Pro 	oursuant to TRID BUYER against	regulations, shall be in	nitiated or maintained by
BUYER	DATE	BUYER	DATE
SELLER	DATE	SELLER	DATE
The firms involved are:			
Selling Firm: RE/MAX Leading Edge	, 2 Mount Vernon :	Street, Winchester MA 0189	90 MA License #9499
Agent Name:Kim Izzi	Age	nt Email: <u>KimIzzi@LeadingEdge</u>	Agents.com
Agent Phone: 617.763.4034	Ager	nt RE License #: <u>9534736/s</u>	
Buying Firm: Real Estate Firm			-
Real Estate Firm	Add	ress	RE License #
Agent Name:	Ager	nt Email:	
Agent Phone:	Ager	t RE License #:	

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(To Be Used When RE/MAX Leading Edge Represents Both Seller and Buyer in the Transaction)

NOTICE OF AGENCY - check one

		e of the potential for a designated
agency relationship with both B	uyer and Seller in connection with y	
	nt is a licensee who has been appoin	
· "	nt of that client, another licensee as	- · ·
	er party in the same transaction. The	
	or Seller) or in the Exclusive Buye	
	that designated agency has occurre	
Broker represent both Buyer and	Seller in connection with the above	named property.
□ DUAL AGENCY	: Broker previously gave notice o	f the potential for dual agency
	tion with your real estate transaction	
	Agreement (for Seller) or in the	
	viously gave your consent to that reli	_ ,
	d and that Broker and affiliated lic	
	ove named property. A dual agent is	•
	· · · · · ·	"
	be neutral with regard to any con	
	ent will not have the ability to satis	• •
disclosure, reasonable care and	d obedience to lawful instructions,	but shall still owe the duty of
Signature (Seller's Agent)	Print Name	Date
Signature (Seller's Agent)	Print Name	Date
	Print Name Print Name	Date

Signature (Buyer's Agent)		***************************************
Signature (Seller's Agent) Signature (Buyer's Agent) BUYER	Print Name	Date
Signature (Buyer's Agent)	Print Name	Date
Signature (Buyer's Agent)	Print Name	Date

RF/MAX

INCLUSION/EXCLUSION SHEET FOR: 48 Federal Street, Unit 304 Beverly MA

ITEM	INCLUDED	EXCLUDED	N/A		
REFRIGERATOR	X				
RANGE (STOVE)	x				
MICROWAVE	X		PILL OF THE REAL PROPERTY.		
DISHWASHER	x				
COMPACTOR		3. 40.00000-0-10.0000			
A/C (PORTABLE/WNDW)		THE STATE OF THE S			
WASHER	x				
DRYER	х				
DINING RM LIGHT					
OTHER LIGHT FIXTURES			ATTENDED OF THE PERSON OF THE		
DRAPES/WNDW TREATMENTS CURTAINS/HARDWARE					
FIREPLACE SCREEN & EQUIPMENT		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			
SWINGSET		A THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF	J		
SHED					
PLAY STRUCTURE		Property Paris			
PLANTS/WINDOW BOXES	THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF				
STEREO SPEAKERS		NV-A-VALA-JALA-BALLIII-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A	WESTER THE THE THE THE THE THE TANK AND		
C/VAC ATTACHMENTS					
POOL EQUIPMENT					
TV & MOUNTS					
OTHER	ANALYSIS AND ANALYSIS ANALYSIS AND ANALYSIS ANALYSIS AND				
OTHER		MAAAA Madaaa aa a	MATTIVE DALM THE STATE OF THE S		
OTHER		1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -			
SELLER Patricia Pearce	dotloop verified 04/22/18 8:59AM EO OS4M-SILG-L4M9-AT	DATE			
SELLER Patrick Pearce	Carloos verified				
BUYER	The second secon	DATE			
BUYER		DATE			

Note: Real Estate law stipulates that anything that is attached to the house must remain with the property unless excluded. E.g. Only window treatments that are permanently attached would stay if not excluded. Only the window treatment hardware that is attached would be expected to stay unless otherwise negotiated. Note refrigerators with ice-makers are plumbed into house and will require disconnection to be moved but can be excluded.



MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® SELLER'S STATEMENT OF PROPERTY CONDITION

THE SELLER AUTHORIZES THE BROKERS OR SALESPERSONS TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO PROSPECTIVE BUYERS. THIS INFORMATION IS BASED UPON THE SELLER'S KNOWLEDGE, BUT IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE CONDITION OF THE PROPERTY OR THE CONTINUED SATISFACTORY OPERATION OF ANY SYSTEM.

THE BUYER SHOULD INDEPENDENTLY VERIFY ALL INFORMATION BEFORE PURCHASE.

	Property	/ Address	48 Federal Street, Unit 304 Beverly MA
	ANSWI	ERS	
YES	NO	UNKN	I. TITLE/ZONING/BUILDING INFORMATION
			Seller/Owner Patrick Pearce & Patricia Pearce How long occupied? Sellers have never lived in the property Approximate year built? 3 Have you been advised of any title problems or limitations (for example, deed restriction, lot line dispute, order of conditions)? If yes, please explain
		\square	a) Do you know of any easement, common driveway, or right of way? If yes, please explain.
			4. Zoning classification of property (if known) 5. Has your city/town issued a notice of any violation which is still outstanding? If yes, explain a) Have you been advised that the current use is nonconforming in any way? Explain
		\square	Do you know of any variances or special permits? Explain
			7. During Seller's ownership, has work been done for which a permit was required? If yes, explain
			a) Were permits obtained? b) Was the work approved by inspector? c) Is there an outstanding notice of any building code violation? Yes No Explain
П		\square	8. Have you been informed that any part of the property is in a designated flood zone or wetlands? Explain.
□ YES	□ NO	☑ UNKN	(See Flood Zone disclosure Page 4) 9. Water drainage problems? Explain
			DO YOU KNOW OF ANY CURRENT PROBLEM WITH ANY SYSTEM LISTED BELOW? 10. Has there ever been an UNDERGROUND FUEL TANK? If yes, is it still in use?
			If not used, was it removed? (See Hazardous Materials Disclosure Page 4) 11. HEATING SYSTEM: Problems? Explain
			a) Identify any unheated room or area
			Type: Municipal Sewer Private If private, describe type of system: (cesspool, septic tank, etc.) . Name of service company Date it was last pumped Frequency . During your ownership has sewage backed up into house or onto yard? Yes No Explain
			Is system shared with other homes? Date a Title 5 inspection last performed Copy attached. Yes No
SELL	er's init		9P

MASSFORMS"
Statewicky Standard Real Estate Forms

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This form is in use by:

Use by anyone other than a participant in the transaction is strictly prohibited.

<u>A</u>	NSWE	RS	
	\square		14. PLUMBING SYSTEM: Problems/Leaks/Freezing? Explain
			Bathroom ventilation problems? Explain
\exists			c) Water quality problems? Explain
\exists	abla		g) Is there a filtration system? Age/Type of filtration system 16. ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: Problems? Explain
			17. APPLIANCES: List appliances that are included Any known problems? If yes, explain 18. SECURITY SYSTEM: None Type Age Company Problems? Explain 19. AIR CONDITIONING: Central Window Other None
	\mathbf{Z}		Problems? Explain
YES	NO H	UNKN	III. BUILDING/STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS INFORMATION 20. FOUNDATION/SLAB: Problems? Explain
			21. BASEMENT: Water Seepage Dampness Explain amount, frequency, and location , a) Sump pump? If yes, age location Problems? 22. ROOF:
			Problems? Explain
		\square	Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove in compliance with installation regulations/code/bylaws?
			25. FLOORS: Type of floors under carpet/linoleum? Problems with floors (buckling, sagging, etc.)? Explain
		KKKK	26. WALLS: a) INTERIOR Walls: Problems? Explain b) EXTERIOR Walls: Problems? Explain. 27. WINDOWS/SLIDING DOORS/DOORS: Problems or leaks? Explain. 28. INSULATION: Does house have insulation? If yes, type Date installed Location 29. ASBESTOS: Do you know whether asbestos is present in exterior shingles, pipecovering or boiler insulation? Has a fiber count been performed? If yes, attach copy
			(See Asbestos disclosure Page 4) 30. LEAD PAINT: Is lead paint present? If yes, locations (attach copy of inspection reports)
			If yes, describe abatement plan/interim controls, if any Has paint been encapsulated? If yes, when and by whom? (See Lead Paint disclosure Page 4) 31. RADON: Has test for radon been performed? If yes, attach copy
			(See Radon disclosure Page 4) 32. INSECTS: History of Termites/Wood Destroying Insects or Rodent Problems? If yes, explain treatment and dates
			(See Chlordane disclosure Page 4)
SELLER	es init		9P 9P 05/01/18 BUYER'S INITIALS BUYER'S INITIALS



2 of 4

AN	SWE	RS	
			33. SWIMMING POOL/JACUZZI: Problems? Explain
			Name of service company 34. GARAGE/SHED/OR OTHER STRUCTURE: Problems, explain
	\square		35. Have you been advised of elevated levels of mold at the Property? Explain
YES	NO	UNKN	IV. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION
	\square		36. Do you know of any other problem which may affect the value or use of the property which may not be obvious to a prospective buyer
_	_	_	Explain
YES	NO	UNKN	V. CONDOMINIUM INFORMATION 37. If converted to condominium, are documents recorded (Master deed/Unit deed etc.)?
			38. PARKING: Number of Spaces 1 Of those spaces, identify number that are 1 deeded; exclusive easements; unassigned; Unassigned or in common area?
H		H	39. CONDO FEES; Current monthly fees for Unit are \$ 302,00 Heat included? Yes No
Ħ		Ħ	Electricity included? Yes No 40. RESERVE FUND: Has an advance payment been made to a condo reserve fund?
	片		If yes, how much \$
		\square	If yes, explain
	abla		42. Have you been advised of any matter which is likely to result in a special assessment or substantially increase condominium fees? Explain
1656			
YES	NO	UNKN	VI. RENTAL PROPERTY INFORMATION 43. NUMBER OF UNITS:
-		abla	Has a unit been added/subdivided since original construction? If yes, was a permit for new/added unit obtained?
_			Expiration date of each lease
Н	-	Ξ	Any tenants without leases? Is owner holding last month's rentsecurity deposit?
=		122.57	If yes, has interest been paid? If security deposit held attach a copy of statements of condition Attached Not attached
		\square	45. Is there any outstanding notice of any sanitary code violation? Yes No Explain
	d and	indemnify	VII. ACKNOWLEDGMENT y acknowledge that the information set forth above is true and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge. I (we) further agree the broker(s) and any subagents for disclosure of any on the information contained herein. Seller(s) further acknowledge statement of Property Condition.
Date <u>5/</u> :	1/2018		Seller Patricia Pearce dottoop verified o5/01/18 7:42PM EDT DMA9-YPHP-CEKR-S2KF Seller Patrick Pearce dottoop verified o5/01/18 4:23PM EDT CZQK-8JMO-WWMP-CVGT
represen multi-fa or other orivate r	nas not tation, mily, re classifi estriction	verified verbal of sidential, cation is ons by the	tive Buyer acknowledges receipt of Seller's Statement of Property Condition before purchase. Buyer acknowledges that the information herein and Buyer has been advised to verify information independently. BUYER is not relying upon any revitten, from any real estate broker or licensee concerning legal use. Any reference to the category (single family, commercial) or the use of this property in any advertisement or listing sheet, including the number of units, number of rooms not a representation concerning legal use or compliance with zoning by-laws, building code, sanitary code or other public or broker. The BUYER understands that if this information is important to BUYER, it is the duty of the BUYER to seek advice an confirmation from the municipality.
Date <u>5/1</u> SELLER			Buyer Buyer Buyer Buyer 3 of 4

MASSFORMS TAIL STATE STA

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VIII. EXPLANATORY MATERIAL

The following clauses are provided for descriptive purposes only. For detailed information, consult the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, or other appropriate agency, or your attorney.

A. Flood Hazard Insurance Disclosure Clause (Question #8)

The lender may require Flood Hazard Insurance as a condition of the mortgage loan if the lender determines that the property is in a flood hazard zone.

B. Hazardous Materials Disclosure Clause (Question #10)

In certain circumstances Massachusetts law can hold an owner of real estate liable to pay for the cost of removing hazardous or toxic materials from real estate and for damages resulting from the release of such materials, according to the Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release and Response Act, General Laws, Chapter 21E. The buyer acknowledges that he may have the property professionally inspected for the presence of, or the substantial likelihood of release of oil or hazardous material and such proof of inspection may be required as a prerequisite for financing the property.

C. Asbestos Disclosure Clause (Question #29)

The United States Consumer Product Safety Commission has maintained that asbestos materials are hazardous if they release separate fibers which can be inhaled. Asbestos is a common insulation material on heating pipes, boilers, and furnaces. It may also be present in certain types of floor and ceiling materials, shingles, plaster products, cements and other building materials. The buyer may have the property professionally inspected for the presence of asbestos and if repair or removal of asbestos is desired, proper safety guidelines must be observed.

D. Lead Paint Disclosure Clause (Question #30)

Whenever a child under six years of age resides in any residential premises in which any paint, plaster or other accessible material contains dangerous levels of lead, the owner is required by law, to remove all said paint, plaster or cover with appropriate materials so as to make it inaccessible to a child under six years of age. Consumption of lead is poisonous and may cause serious personal injury. Whenever such residential premises containing dangerous levels of lead undergoes a change of ownership, as a result, a child under six years of age will become a resident, the new owner is required by law to remove said paint, plaster cover or encapsulate it with appropriate materials so as to make it inaccessible to such child. Buyer should receive information pamphlet from Department of Public Health.

E. Radon Disclosure Clause

(Question #31)

Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas produced naturally in the ground by the normal decay of uranium and radium. Radon can lead to the development of radioactive particles which can be inhaled. Studies indicate the result of extended exposure to high levels of radon may increase the risk of developing lung cancer.

F. Chlordane Disclosure Clause

(Question #32)

Pesticide products containing chlordane were banned in Massachusetts on June 11, 1985, following a determination by the Department of Food and Agriculture that the use of chlordane may cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment including risk of cancer. Although existing data does not conclusively prove that significant health effects have occurred as a direct result of chlordane use, the long-term potential health risks are such that is prudent public health policy, according to the Department, to eliminate the further introduction of chlordane into the environment.

G. Mold Information

Molds are naturally occurring organisms that exist both indoors and outdoors. More than 1000 different kinds of mold have been found in homes in the United States. Molds are fungi that reproduce by making spores. Spores are small and lightweight and able to travel through the air. Molds need moisture and food to grow and their growth is stimulated by warm, damp and humid conditions. Molds can use materials such as wood, paper, drywall and carpet as food sources. Reducing dampness indoors is often key to reducing the growth of mold. Depending on the level of mold, allergies, respiratory problems and other health consequences can be triggered in sensitive individuals. However, exposure to mold does not always result in health problems. As of July of 2002, U.S. governmental agencies reported that a determination had not been made what quantity of mold was acceptable in an indoor environment. For more information on mold, contact an engineer or other qualified mold inspector. Information may also be found at the web site for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, www.epa.gov.

H. Fair Housing Notice

It is unlawful to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, national origin, age, gender, sex, ancestry, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, disability, presence of a child, receipt of public assistance or other protected classification in the sale or rental of covered housing.







LETTER TO BUYERS AND SELLERS -

BEST PRACTICE FOR SMOOTH TRANSACTIONS

We ask parties to live by the golden rule when making or receiving an offer.

Treat the other side the way you would want to be treated.

Advice to sellers: if you receive an offer, respond to it in a timely manner. Work with the "bird in the hand." Buyers understandably get upset if they feel their offer is being leveraged for another offer that may or may not materialize. This alienates a potentially good buyer and gets negotiations off to a bad start.

Advice to buyers: make offers in good faith. If you find yourself in a position of multiple offers, or if you feel the only way to put a house under agreement when it is new to the market is to pay top price, then don't try to renegotiate the price after a home inspection. Only offer a price that you feel comfortable with and always assume that the house will need work and budget accordingly. All houses need work. Please be patient after submitting an offer. We often have to wait to get in touch with the seller who may need to talk to an attorney, spouse, partner or extended family. Expect a long delay if the seller is an estate or bank. We will do our best to explain the circumstances and respond to you as soon as we can. There are many reasons a response may not be immediately available – please try to understand. We know waiting can be anguishing.

The Purpose of a Home Inspection: Rules of the Road for Buyers and Sellers

Everyone needs to keep in mind that most of the housing stock we have in Greater Boston and surrounding communities is USED. The purpose of a home inspection is to inform a buyer about what he or she is buying, not to renegotiate the sale price of a property. When potential Buyers are MAKING AN OFFER THEY SHOULD BUDGET TO SPEND THEIR OWN FUNDS TOWARD THE REPAIRS SUGGESTED BY THE HOME INSPECTOR. It would not be unusual for that sum to add up to many thousands of dollars. We ask all buyers to take this into consideration when they make their offer so that they don't feel they overpaid if they discover things that need to be fixed in the house. No house is perfect no matter how well maintained. We as REALTORs have priced a property taking into consideration its location, size, configuration, number of rooms, bedrooms and bathrooms, lot size and general condition. Buyers are always taken by surprise by the costs of maintenance and repairs to a house and want to renegotiate the price after home inspection. We ask that you don't shop in a price range that stretches your household budget so much you cannot assume the maintenance of a house. Do you have access to thousands and thousands of dollars over the next 5-10 years to take care of the items your home inspector will inevitably find? If not, you may not be a good match for a used house. So, except for some very expensive item that needs immediate repair that you could never have known about without an inspection, we expect the buyer to assume the house and its issues at closing. That is normal. We keep hearing from buyers, "I knew I'd have to do some work, but I just can't afford to go forward without a price adjustment." So we ask you to take this very real issue into consideration now, before you make an offer on a house you can't afford.

BUYER'S	INITIALS	
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RF/MAX LEADING EDGE

It is the job of all home inspectors to highlight maintenance issues, look for pests and insects, point out needed repairs, assess structural condition and scrutinize major systems like plumbing, electric, heat and roof. Every home inspection, even in the best maintained home, turns up multiple issues. Commonly we find that a chimney or wall needs re-pointing, that fireplaces aren't lined, (new building codes require linings - however old fireplaces are often triple bricked which may in fact be a better, but more expensive way to build a chimney than today's current code requires). It is not uncommon for some electrical wire to be loose or not properly boxed or for homes to have knob and tube wiring. Expect to have to upgrade electrical service; today's buyers have needs for computers and equipment that many of our sellers never faced. We see that ropes in windows are broken, that older kitchens and baths do not have GFI outlets and that lots of physical things that currently exist do not meet updated building codes. Our older housing stock has older waste pipes, water services, heating systems, roofs, exterior shingles and gutters, facia boards and plumbing. It is typical for roofs to be installed without vents, and insulation not to be in keeping with your home inspector's recommendations. Powder Post Beetles and termites have left their damage scars in virtually all basements in older homes. When a basement is finished, a home inspector will tell you that he can't determine what is going on in the sills and joists behind the covered walls, so take that into consideration now when you make your offer. We don't want you backing out of the deal later because you don't know what is covered up in the finished basement.

Another very common issue in our 19th C. homes is settling and sloping. Some home inspectors will sound the alarm of structural problems when floors tip. If you see tree trunk columns in the basement, know that a home inspector will suggest you put in steel columns in concrete footings (at about \$1500 apiece - the seller has lived without steel columns - so this is a buyer's expense - budget accordingly). Homeowners with slanting floors think it's part of the charm. If you don't want that charm, don't make an offer on a home with floors that aren't level. Buyers should not expect sellers to upgrade a house for them. Every buyer should expect most, if not all, of these things in our beautiful older housing stock.

We ask everyone to further understand that every home inspector has his own opinion as to the proper maintenance of a home. Please remember that the issues that are brought up by the home inspector have probably not been a concern to the current homeowner. (The house is functioning fine from their perspective and they may like their old fuses... and the corrosion on the pipe feeding the laundry has never leaked... they are used to the windows that won't stay up...they've been having fires in their fireplaces for years, ...etc.)

Please do not expect a seller to negotiate on something visible to the eye: tree roots uprooting sidewalks, tree limbs or trees too close to the house, cracked tile in the bathroom or cracked windows, rotting bulkhead doors, gutters that are broken or disconnected, etc. We expect that you have carefully seen the property and that problems that are in plain view have been taken into consideration when you make an offer. Also, expect a home inspector to recommend maintenance items like servicing the heating system or cleaning the gutters. The purpose of the home inspection is not to compensate a buyer for the perfect house, but to make them aware of the items they will need to address when they buy the home. Again, these are buyer's expenses and should be anticipated.

Just because a home inspector recommends a lightening rod, updated electrical system, vinyl siding, new storms and screens, GFI outlets or lining the chimney, does not mean that the seller should be responsible for these or any other improvements for the new buyer. (We have witnessed home inspectors recommending things that we feel would hurt the value of a property like vinyl siding in an area where natural siding has higher value!)

A significant sea change has occurred in the way pest control companies look at homes for pest problems, most notably termites. Until recently pest companies only recommended treatment if there were signs of active termites in the house. Today, many pest companies, concerned about liability, are recommending treatments for every home they inspect.

BUYER'S IN	IITIALS	

Rotting wood near the ground, termite activity in landscape timbers and under rocks near the foundation, and termite damage in porches and sills are common, and most companies are recommending treatment even if the damage is a century old. It is also the policy of many chemical companies not to distinguish between old and active termite damage. Further, it is the policy of many companies to always recommend treatment if there is any evidence of damage, past or present. Because it is evident that some termite or wood boring insect damage is present in almost every property that we list we would like to set a standard for negotiations. We believe it is a seller's responsibility to treat for termite damage if, and only if, termite mud tubes are found to be present in the structure of the main house or an attached garage or if there is evidence of "swarming". This is the industry standard for active termites. We also believe that all buyers who elect to have a pest inspection should be prepared to follow up on the recommended treatment of the pest control company after they purchase their house if mud tubes or swarming are not present. Sheds and detached garages are not considered the main house and are very attractive to pests. Buyers should be prepared to treat those structures when they purchase a home as normal home maintenance and not expect the seller to compensate them for such.

On occasion there are major issues which cannot be known to the buyer, or perhaps even the seller, without the more in-depth investigation usually done by a home inspector or specialist, (e.g. extensive termite damage). There is a possibility that such an issue might require negotiating and/or repair. A cash settlement may be warranted so that work can be done to the satisfaction of the new owner.

ADVICE FOR BUYERS – if you want to make the terms of your offer more favorable to a seller you should agree to do your home inspection within three days of an accepted offer and sign a purchase and sale as soon thereafter as possible (7 days). Sellers cannot accept other offers while you have it under agreement, and they lose valuable marketing time not knowing whether or not their deal is solid. A deal is solid when there is a fully executed Purchase and Sale and if the bank has issued a commitment letter. Also, please disclose to the seller in writing if you will be using a government loan (FHA or VA) when you make your offer. Under no circumstance will the seller consider an offer contingent on the closing of the buyer's property. Every transaction has inherent risk for both parties. A buyer who attempts to eliminate all risk on their end creates high risk for the seller which is simply unacceptable. A buyer cannot expect the seller to assume all the risk. Consult an experienced real estate attorney.

WARNING - It is our experience that many banks/mortgage companies are very eager for your loan and will promise you the moon but are having difficulty delivering on their promises. (Read: the loan you get at closing isn't the one you thought you were getting.) In addition to causing delays with some financing, there are a lot of bank/mortgage operations that are using attorneys, appraisers, surveyors and title examiners who do not complete their work in time to meet the financing deadline. Unfortunately, many buyers who are purchasing homes we have listed have experienced carelessness, oversights and ineptness with the bank they have chosen and are unable to close on time. New HUD regulations are wreaking havoc with closing on the contract date. The buyer's deposit (five percent of the sale price) is at risk if they are unable to perform or close on the date required by their contract. It is not unreasonable for the seller to want a large sum of money to agree to extend the closing in order to bridge their next purchase or to compensate them for not closing on time. We are happy to provide a long list of reliable lenders, but if a buyer chooses to work with someone else and the closing is delayed, we will consider the buyer forewarned, and will be less likely to be sympathetic when trouble arises from a bank that is not on our list of reliable lenders. Buyers can also request that a local attorney be used to do the conveyancing which tends to streamline the process. Buyers may, of course, use the bank of their choosing but it is our goal for every transaction to go smoothly. We have learned that the people we rely upon will do a good job for their clients, the buyer (s). This warning is simply to prevent any misery in the buyer's life. We would be glad to furnish names of people who wish they had taken this advice.