

City of Newton, Massachusetts

Newton Historical Commission 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459 Nancy Grissom, Chairman

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> Barney Heath Director

September 9, 2020

Newton Community Preservation Program Planning & Development Dept. 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton Centre, MA 02459

Re: Grace Episcopal Church Steeple Project

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Newton Historical Commission had the opportunity to review the proposed steeple project at the Grace Episcopal Church during its August 27, 2020 hearing.

Grace Episcopal Church is Newton's oldest standing stone church, and the defining architectural feature of Newton Corner and the Farlow and Kenrick Parks National Register Historic District. The Commission believes the tower, belfry and spire are integral parts of a Newton landmark of outstanding architectural quality.

We believe the project is in keeping with the historic nature of the church and the Commission is in favor of the project proceeding.

Sincerely,

Doug Cornelius
Chairman
Newton Historical Commission