2014-2015 City of Newton

## Memorandum



To: Aldermen and Members of the Public

From: Marc C. Laredo, Chairman Land Use Committee

Re: Austin Street

Date: May 13, 2015

The Austin Street project will be presented to the Land Use Committee on June 2 and 9, 2015. No other matters will be heard on those dates. Other meetings will be scheduled thereafter.

We will begin the Committee's meetings promptly at 7 p.m. and will finish by approximately 10 p.m. each evening. The developer will begin the June 2 meeting with a 45 minute to one-hour presentation, followed by questions from the Aldermen and then comments by members of the public. Aldermen are strongly urged to limit their initial remarks on June 2 to questions about the project and not arguments for or against the project. On June 9, we will begin with an approximately fifteen-minute presentation by the Newtonville Area Council (since it is an elected governmental body, I am permitting it to make a separate presentation), followed by comments from the public. Public comment will be limited to approximately three minutes per person per evening. Of course, written comments of any length are always welcome at any time before the public hearing is concluded and can be submitted either by hand, regular mail, or email to the Clerk, Linda Finucane, who will then circulate them to the entire Board of Aldermen. The public hearing (and therefore the opportunity for future public comment) will be kept open until the Committee is ready for its final vote on the project, which I anticipate will be sometime in the late fall.

I am happy to discuss questions about the process with any interested citizen or group. Questions or comments about the merits of the project, however, should be made either at the various opportunities for public comment or in writing to the Clerk at lfinucane@newtonma.gov.