

Nadia Khan

From: Chris Markiewicz
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Nadia Khan
Subject: Concerns about Zoning Reform and the Washington Place Proposal

Dear Chairman Laredo, Councillors Lennon, Schwartz, Lipof, Cote, Harney, Crossley and Auchincloss:

I have reviewed the materials supporting the proposal for Washington Place (the Orr Block) and considered the zoning issues which are relevant to this proposal in its current form.

I ask you to vote against any change in zoning which is ad-hoc to enabling the proposal for a 5 story structure in Newtonville. I believe ad-hoc zoning changes are risky business for the City. While there may be special circumstances under which this type of relief is necessary, I see no compelling reason for the City to grant one for this proposal.

I believe the density impact will be adverse on the scale that is proposed. I also question the viability of expensive retail space on the ground floor and its potential impact on traffic and parking were it to generate the traffic necessary to make it commercially viable.

I would be pleased to discuss this with any or all of the Councilors here, but please, do not grant this exception. Let the Developer proceed on a path that is available under the current zoning laws.

Thank your for your consideration.

Very Truly yours,

Chris Markiewicz
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