

Nadia Khan

From: David A. Olson
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 11:49 AM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Nadia Khan
Subject: FW: Orr dvelopment

From: elena wright [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 11:37 AM
To: David A. Olson
Subject: Orr dvelopment

Date: June 6, 2016

To: City Councilors

From: Elena Wright
94 Ridge Ave
Newton

Please vote against the current proposal for the Washington Street development. It will result in a transformation and urbanization of Washington Street, and the end of many of our other suburban village centers as we know them.

Please do not allow the re-zoning of the property. Extremely troubling is the prospect of a new block structure that goes beyond the 2 to 3 stories allowed by right. The developer should never be given the right to construct any type of 5-story luxury apartment building with a few retail stores at the ground level. Does anyone think the Cahners Building that blankets Newton Corner would look better if it were two stories taller? It is out of scale with the surrounding community as it is.

The Washington Street proposal is even more of an eyesore. It belongs on Harrison Avenue in Boston, not in our suburb. Suburbs do have a right to exist: don't you agree?

Look at the way residential buildings are set back in other suburbs so that there is grass and trees in front of them to soften the impact of a three story wall. That is what suburban architecture should look like. Even the new Wegman's developers had the sense to show trees and plantings fronting a setback from Route 9. The trees were not just in the berm, they were in a setback in their artists renditions. Lack of oversight resulted in the current poorly executed configuration.

Let's not make decisions based on what is profitable for the developer but out of keeping with what local people cherish about our city.