

Date: December 2, 2016
To: David Olson, City Clerk
From: Greg Tutunjian
Subject: Newtonville Area / Orr Block Development / Austin Street Parking

Dear City Clerk Olson,

I am writing to you as a Newton Corner resident who makes very frequent use of Newtonville Resources. I continue to be alarmed by the proposed Orr Block residential and economic development plans being shared through The Tab and in City Council meetings. I'm also alarmed by the proposed plans for the current Austin Street Public Parking lot.

Orr Block

My primary interest is in sustaining a culture and a location in which small businesses can thrive. The current businesses are anchor businesses and have established relationships that help shape the character of our City and the impressions of our City for who come from outside Newton to frequent these establishments. (I meet many non-residents in line at Newtonville Camera and at adjacent tables at Karoun. Whenever I mention these establishments outside of Newton, I'm usually rewarded with smiles and affirmations of their uniqueness and personalized service.) I also believe that the Orr Block architecture we have available to us should be preserved.

Austin Street Public Parking Lot

This is an exceptionally busy and strategically located parking lot that this area of Newton needs to preserve for several reasons: To preclude visitors and shoppers from overloading (parking on) residential streets, to simplify shopping at local businesses, and to reduce gas consumption and pollution for motorists seeking a legal spot to park their car.

These are some of the Newtonville Resources I use throughout a typical week:

- Post Office (Business Post Office Box)
- Karoun Restaurant (Patron)
- Newtonville Camera (Patron)
- Star Market (Patron)
- Sunoco Gas Station (Patron)
- CVS Pharmacy (Patron)
- Starbucks (Patron)

I appreciate your consideration of my views, and I encourage you to share my letter with the entire City Council.

Respectively,

Greg Tutunjian
Newton Corner, MA