

**Nadia Khan**

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**From:** David A. Olson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** citycouncil  
**Cc:** Nadia Khan  
**Subject:** FW: Washington Street project

-----Original Message-----

From: Krishna Butaney  
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 10:03 PM  
To: David A. Olson  
Cc:  
Subject: Washington Street project

Hello,

I hope you will forward this to the city councilors and the Land Use Committee as I understand there will be a meeting tomorrow regarding the above mentioned project. Neither my husband, nor I will be able to attend as it is the night of the Cabot School Winter Concert, of which our daughter is a part of.

He and I wanted to make sure that we expressed our serious concern over the scope of the Washington Street project and the congestion it will cause our already strained neighborhood.

We live at 410 Newtonville Avenue and have lived here for about 7 1/2 years. Our kids go to school at Cabot and we love our neighborhood dearly. Our daughter goes to the Boston Ballet, and has for the past 5 years, which is now moving to a much further location as a result of this project. We are staunch supporters of the businesses in our neighborhood from Aji sushi to Newtonville Camera, which will also be relocated as a result of this project.

There is no reason to change the zoning for this individual parcel of land especially when it is our understanding that the city is already in the process of re-evaluating zoning citywide. It would seem to us that if in fact an exception were to be made, the land use committee would grant a variance to one particular parcel as opposed to re-zoning the area. The re-zoning would obviate the need for a developer, should he/she purchase more land down Washington Street, to come back and seek any further input from the public.

We are opposed to the magnitude of this project. There is no need for a project that is the size and scope of this building in this already congested neighborhood. The building abuts a historic neighborhood and it would be unsightly to have such a huge monstrosity of a building next to a quaint historic neighborhood.

Further, the magnitude of this project will result in traffic congestion and divergence of traffic to the side streets which are filled with children. Our street, Newtonville Avenue, is already a cut through from Center Street to Walnut Street with cars zooming down the street at all hours of the day. Additionally, people constantly park and block our driveways to go attend to their business in the downtown Newtonville area. With the addition of a construction project where the Starbucks is, across the Star Market, and the self storage facility that was approved on our street, our neighborhood has morphed into a booming metropolis instead of a quaint neighborhood with historic Victorian houses.

The city councilors and the land use committee members need to listen to the voices of the people living in this neighborhood who will have to live with the consequences of their vote. Please do not vote to re-zone our neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Krishna Butaney and Costa Zahos

Sent from my iPhone