

Nadia Khan

From: David A. Olson
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2016 9:44 AM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Nadia Khan
Subject: FW: Please forward this letter to each City Council member

From: susan rako [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 9:11 PM
To: David A. Olson
Subject: Please forward this letter to each City Council member

To each member of the Newton City Council,

I have lived in my home at 83 Walker Street in Newtonville for 49 years. Newtonville is my village, and the proposed massive development on Washington Street is my neighborhood. Karoun Restaurant; Newtonville Camera; The Boston School of Ballet and the Dancers Place; and my regular gas station: the Sunoco station I've depended on since Skip ran it in the 60's - 80's and that I still regularly use. Every time I walk up the block or drive by the Orr building and the adjacent buildings, I feel sick at the future prospect of a looming mammoth block of buildings — a nightmare. I look up the block and imagine with horror a four or five story building blocking out the sky.

I am resigned to the the end of the place as I've known and lived in it. But if only the scale of the development could be kept at two or three stories; and if the buildings could have some walkways to break up the continuous hugely long palisade of bricks — with some green spaces and walkways to interrupt the solid huge block — it would be less horrible. The renderings of the proposed mammoth development makes me feel as though I can't breathe. It looks like the Bronx. Nothing like Newton.

Most urgently I urge that you please keep the present zoning limitation on the number of stories that are permissible. I pray that you will protect the zoning limitations. Please.

Susan Rako
83 Walker Street
Newtonville, MA 02460