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Subject:	Connect Riverside Office Ctr to Riverside Sta Devlp
From:	John McElduff <jhmcelduff@gmail.com>
To:	thessmahan@newtonma.gov
Copies to:	nlf@newtonlowerfalls.org,
	lfinucane@newtonma.gov,
	Kay Khan <Kay.Khan@mahouse.gov>,
	Bob Carleo <abcarleo@verizon.net>,
	acicconejr@newtonma.gov,
	asalvucci@newtonma.gov,
	asangiolo@newtonma.gov,
	byates@newtonma.gov,
	Clappin@newtonma.gov,
	cmerrill@newtonma.gov,
	dcrossley@newtonma.gov,
	dkalis@newtonma.gov,
	gschwartz@newtonma.gov,
	gtanswiston@newtonma.gov,
	jharney@newtonma.gov,
	jrice@newtonma.gov,
	lbaker@newtonma.gov,
	lgentile@newtonma.gov,
	mfischman@newtonma.gov,
	mjohnson@newtonma.gov,
	mlaredo@newtonma.gov,
	rblazar@newtonma.gov,
	rfuller@newtonma.gov,
	salbright@newtonma.gov,
	slennon@newtonma.gov,
	slinsky@newtonma.gov,
	vdanberg@newtonma.gov

Good Morning Alderman Ted Hess-Mahan,

Last week I used the attached notes to address the Land Use Committee on one simple matter pertaining to the Riverside development . Please add it to the record. I trust that you will lead the Aldermen and deliver on the rock solid promise, made to Newton in the 1997 special permit for the Riverside Office Center (to build the road between the two developments connecting to Rt 128 if the MBTA ever built out their site). My neighbors are counting on you.

Thanks,

258-12 and (2)

John McElduff
46 Lafayette Rd
Newton Lower Falls

Four of our aldermen, Alderen Merrill, Yates, Salvucci and Gentile voted for it. They voted yes in 1997, approving the Riverside Office Center special permit. Great project, awesome Job!

Their vote included future construction of a "cross road" from the offices to 128, if MBTA ever built out the Riverside site. That road is not on any Riverside Station special permit document. I know an awful lot about this issue it. The T, now under MASSDOT, wrote to the Mayor and said it can't be done because of safety and operational concerns. Game over? Some say the wording in the clause excludes its construction. But they weren't there in '97, to understand the spirit of the clause. I spent an hour on the phone this summer with Past Alderman Polly Bryson. She told me that the words could never be twisted and the additional cross road was a rock solid compromise. NLF and Auburndale would absorb the office park traffic, but never would be expected to absorb traffic from another big development.

MASSDOT refuses to contribute to this Newton project; they only want their rent money. They have said no to everything: this cross road, bringing the 128 ramps directly into the roundabouts, they instead dangerously slip them past, no to direct access from Rt 128, no to Option B-2, bringing traffic out of the development and up to Grove Street from behind the hotel. MASSDOT Secretary Richard Davey delivered this message to me personally. His mind was made up before our meeting even started. Why is this option even on the drawing as a possibility? Perhaps to give us villagers a little bit of hope. Secretary Davey is unfair to Newton villages and families. MASSDOT says no to wider sidewalks on the Grove Street Bridge, and they are not really interested in solving weave issues with traffic flows north on the collector road.

I look to these for alderman to lead the way, and make MASSDOT say yes, not only to the cross road but all these issues mentioned.

The cross road is a promise to the people of two villages. You may wonder why there are not more villagers in the room tonight. I survey them all the time. Many have simply given up, because MASSDOT could care less, and they feel there is no way to stop them. In many ways they are the developer, and they need to comply with your special permits (new and old). Make the cross road a requirement and get it on the drawings now. Please don't listen to excuses like its expensive, hard to phase or to dangerous. This is Newton, we can get it built.

I know this Board takes promises seriously....... show us you do, stand up for us, so that we can have trust in the new special permit that you will soon write.

Thank you for your time.