MINUTES DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

April 11, 2023

5:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom Project: **425 Medford Master Plan**

Present: Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner David Manfredi, Commissioner Kirk Sykes, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis and Commissioner Catherine Morris

DISCUSSION: The project team gave an overview of the project's context and design. Commissioners asked about topography and for ground floor and a retail plan for buildings along Medford Street, Olmsted Way and the blue buildings on the plan. There was concern bout activation use. Commissioners commented that the laboratory buildings do not interact as much with the tenant spaces, and had concerns about safety and comfort especially along Cove Way. It was suggested to provide more connections to Doherty Park. Commissioners also asked if the size of the community space and would like more details about the programming and connection to the open space around it.

There was a public comment addressing more of a residential feel to the proposed residential building facades and a request for more about the public realm amenities.

The Project will continue in design committee.

6:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: 15 Washington Street

Present: Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner Kirk Sykes, and Commissioner Catherine Morris

DISCUSSION:

The project team gave an overview of what has been seen in design committee thus far and focused on responding to previous questions from Commissioners about how the buildings work together as a composition and how the building entrances are experienced. Commissioners asked for more detail on materials, programing, and corner details specifically along Allston and Corey Street. The commissioners asked that attention be given to the community concerns particularly around function and safety of the public realm.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

It was expressed the proposed massing is to large and therefore undesirable. Pedestrian safety and traffic conditions were a major concern and significant improvements to the intersection and crosswalks was a request.

The Project will continue in design committee.