



## West End Civic Association

Edward McGuire, III  
BRA Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Agency  
9th Floor  
One City Hall Square Boston, MA 02201

December 7, 2015

Subject: October 6, 2015 Notice of Project change, Garden Garage Project, West End

Dear Mr. McGuire,

As of this date more than 700 residents of the West End have written letters in opposition to the latest proposed design of the Garden Garage Project.

A no time during this long and tedious process has Equity made any substantive changes in response to our efforts to work with them to design a project that fits into the fabric of the West End residential neighborhood.

The community does not object to redevelopment of this parcel providing it meets the zoning requirements as set forth in the West End Urban Renewal Plan of 1957.

Respectfully,

Joseph McGrath  
President, WECA

cc: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, State Rep. James Livingstone, City Councilor Josh Zakim, BRA Director Brian Golden, Council President William Linehan, Councilors At Large: Michael Flaherty, Anissa Essaibi George, Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Director of Development Review and Policy Jonathan Greeley

**Amy Lowell Residents Association  
65 Martha Rd, Boston, MA 02114**

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
One City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201

In re: October 6, 2015 Notice of Project change, Garden Garage Project, West End

Dear Mr. McGuire:

Enclosed find the Amy Lowell Residents Association official letter of opposition to the October 6, 2015 NPC and 61 letters in opposition from individual Amy Lowell residents. Our residents have been proactive in attending IAG and Community meetings and we have been patient as the developer, Equity Residential, has continued to present proposals that they have to know are going to be opposed by the community.

This last "change", reducing the overall height of the project by a mere two stories is baffling and frustrating to people like us who take our responsibility to participate in our community seriously.

The residents of Amy Lowell Apartments are not opposed to the redevelopment of the Garden Garage providing the project is complimentary to the existing residential neighborhood and complies with the zoning regulations as set forth in the West End Urban Renewal Plan of 1957.

Respectfully,



John F. Nihen  
Chairperson

cc: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, State Rep. James Livingstone, City Councilor Josh Zakim, BRA Director Brian Golden, Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Michael Flaherty, Anissa Essaibi George, Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Neighborhood Liaison Maria Lanza, Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley

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In re: October 6, 2015 Notice of Project change, Garden Garage Project, West End

Dear Mr. McGuire:

Once again, the Amy Lowell Residents Association is rising to express our objection to the latest Notice of Project Change (NPC) submitted by Equity for the demolition of the Garden Garage and replacing it with an 820 space underground parking structure and a 44 story tower of luxury apartments.

**HEIGHT, DENSITY & MASS**

Once again, Equity Residential has come back with a proposal that is only a small change in difference from previous versions that were also rejected by the community. In this instance, they have reduced the height of the tower by TWO Stories from 46 to 44 stories. They have also increased the Width of the project with a net result that is LARGER than previous submissions.

Equity has done this again and again, continuing to submit proposals that any reasonable person would understand is not going to sit well with the abutters and neighbors. They do this for two reasons. One is that they think time is on their side, that they can continue to chip away at neighborhood resistance until we get tired of them. The other reason is because the BRA LETS THEM DO THIS.

We were SHOCKED and DISAPPOINTED at this latest NPC in light of the nearly 1350 letters that have been submitted by our community in opposition to this project over 2 letter-writing campaigns in November 2014 and April of 2015. The BRA promised us that a PAD would be issued and our concerns would be communicated to the developer so they could come up with a different proposal.

This lack of movement by the developer and the BRA is what prompted one longtime IAG member to resign and caused a walkout at the following IAG meeting.

We have frankly begun to wonder who the BRA is representing - the City and citizens of Boston or the interests of the developer!

## SUSPICIOUS ZONING CHANGE PROCESS

We continue to be displeased by the manner in which the BRA obtained a Zoning change to accommodate the height of this project. The ad that the BRA placed in the Herald announcing the Zoning change meeting had no information regarding Garden Garage project or even the West End. It is our contention that no reasonable person looking at that ad would have been able to discern that it had anything to do with the Garden Garage project.

The fact that there were 3 other notifications posted by the BRA on the same page that DID contain references to the Projects and Areas concerned, raises our suspicions about the BRA's motives for placing such an obscurely worded notification in the paper.

That this was done without notifying the IAG or abutters raised some eyebrows when we met with City Councilors in the Spring. The fact that the BRA failed to mention this change for SIX MONTHS, despite having the opportunity to do so at IAG meetings and Community meetings is completely unacceptable.

We EXPECT, we DESERVE, WE DEMAND better treatment than this by the BRA. A process that is not transparent and aboveboard has NO place in the City of Boston.

## TRAFFIC

We have mentioned this so many times it is not even funny. We've received assurances from the BRA and the City that Traffic problems in our area are being addressed and that the developer, Equity Residential, is making a contribution to a Traffic study. But none of that changes the fact that Equity's proposals will add more traffic and congestion to an area that already has severe problems.

We have already seen instances where ambulances and other service vehicles have been unable to reach their destinations due to traffic on Martha Road.. I invite Mr. McGuire or any BRA Board Member to stand on the corner of Nashua Street and Martha Road some afternoon around 1-2 pm. Not even during rush hour or on a game or concert night at the Garden. What you will experience is pure gridlock with cars blocking curb cuts for wheelchairs and blocking crosswalks so that pedestrians must take their lives in their hands just to cross the street.

Frankly, it is difficult to keep track of the developer's reasoning of why their project will not impact traffic in the West End. On the one hand they claim that residents of their building will not drive but will instead take public transit, walk or bike. That doesn't explain why they are adding an additional 200 spaces to their planned underground garage.



Equity tells us that they need to build the Tower at that height to recoup the money spent to construct the underground garage, but they will not share their numbers with us or entertain any sort of compromise with the community.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

As noted in previous letters objecting to the size and scale of this project, Equity has proposed tying in to existing water and sewer lines which are over 50 years old and designed for far less density that this development will add. There have already been problems with water main and sewer line breaks along Thoreau Path. This project will place an unnecessary burden on existing infrastructure.

## DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES AND HYPER-GENTRIFICATION

The original West End Urban Renewal project was designed to bring back middle income families to the West End. Introducing a luxury hi-rise building of this size, with studio apartments renting for \$2,500.00 and 1-bedroom apartments renting for \$3,300.00 is not supportive of that objective and will accelerate hyper-gentrification of the West End..

This large influx of higher income earners will alter the demographics of the West End. The resulting increases in commercial rents will force out older businesses and the natural economic progression from there is for prices of goods and services to go up to support higher rents. This will ultimately make the West End unaffordable for many long term residents.

We've already seen this happening, where many long term residents of South Boston and other parts of the city are being driven out by gentrification. We do not have to let that happen here in the West End.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

We are disappointed that the developer is being allowed to have only 25% of the required affordable housing units on site and being allowed to move another required 25% to other properties and pay into a fund for the other 50%, in effect buying their way out of their legal obligation.

We understand that this has become a standard practice in Boston and in other cities, but to us it seems to go counter to the intent of the requirement to set aside a portion of new construction as affordable or low-income housing. Not doing so creates what is referred to as Golden Ghettoes, where developers can pitch to prospective clients that they will not have to live next to or near any of "those people." This creates discrimination based on economic standing that unfairly deprives low income/fixed income residents of an opportunity to be included and unfairly affects the elderly, the disabled, veterans and people of color.

## COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The proposed project design by Equity touts what they believe are public benefits to the community. Nearly item-by-item these "benefits" are amenities that the community has said it doesn't want or that it doesn't need. Dog run or Dog Park? This was overwhelmingly voted down, vocally and loudly, at two public meetings. Retail space? Equity proposes 2000 sq feet of retail space, about the size of a small convenience store. we have two CVS stores and two convenience stores within a short walk already. Open Space? We have plenty of that already.

The consensus among residents of the West End community who have been presented the so-called public benefits of the project is that these amenities are more for the benefit of Equity's residents than the public at large.

## WHAT WE WANT

The residents of Amy Lowell want any redevelopment of the Garden Garage to be reasonable in scale, complementary to the existing residential neighborhood and in compliance with the zoning regulations of the West End Urban Renewal Plan of 1957.

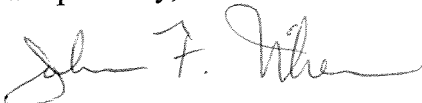
If we have to put that in shorthand:

- Reduce the building height and change the design
- No new parking spaces.
- Reduction of the total number of apartments and more onsite affordable apartments

In the past, residents of the West End have been successful in working together with developers, including Equity, to come up with compromises on other projects. We believe strongly that there is an opportunity here for the BRA to use its authority to nudge Equity in the right direction; one in which Equity becomes willing to sit down and engage the community and find a workable solution.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Respectfully,



John F. Nihen  
Chairperson

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Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
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Boston, MA 02201

**RE: 10/6/2015 Notice of Project Change (NPC) by Equity Residential for the Proposed Garden "Bubble" Garage Project**

Dear Mr. McGuire:

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We all want our neighborhood to grow and prosper and we encourage development that will have a positive effect on our community. This project does not accomplish this simple objective. The proposed height and building design is significantly out of character with the existing architecture in the West End. Furthermore, the hyper gentrification of the West End created by a forty-four story, luxury hi-rise will make our neighborhood unaffordable for many long term residents. Is this what the city of Boston and Mayor Walsh wants for the residents of the West End?

This proposed project will also increase traffic congestion and air pollution. Consequently, the increase in air pollution will create an environmental health hazard for many longtime residents of the West End as well as its neighboring communities. City Councilman Josh Zakim has stated on many occasions that this is the wrong project for our neighborhood; I strongly agree with his assessment.

The West End community has actively participated in all of the public and informational meetings regarding every version of this proposed redevelopment. We have submitted comment letters three times over five years at various stages of the Article 80 Large Project Review Process – this is our fourth effort. In our past comments, the members of our community have overwhelmingly supported a responsible redevelopment plan for the Garden Garage.

Each time we commented we asked the BRA and the developer to modify the project. To date, no meaningful changes have been proposed by Equity Residential. The latest NPC, reducing the height of the proposed Tower by TWO stories is an insult to the efforts we have made to reconcile the concerns of the community with the needs of the developer.

Our neighborhood's 700-plus comment letters on the April 2015 Notice of Project Change, have yet to be answered or acknowledged and, once again, there have been no meaningful changes made by the developer in this second NPC despite those 700 plus comment letters. In fact, the size of this proposed project has increased.

**Please hear my voice: I cannot support this current Notice of Project Change. I request that the BRA reject this proposal in its current form and that they require a redesign from Equity that I can support.**

Print Name SYLVIA R. APPLETON

Signed 

65 Martha Road, Apt # 4-P BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

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Print Name LINDA AQUILINA Signed Linda J. Aquilina

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7Q BOSTON, MA 02114

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Print Name ROSEMARIE ARMENIO Signed Rosemarie Armenio

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7C BOSTON, MA 02114

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Print Name RICHAB ASADORO Signed Richard Asa

65 Martha Road, Apt # 92 BOSTON, MA 02114

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Print Name Jeanne M. Bailey Signed Jeanne M. Bailey

65 Martha Road, Apt # 3H BOSTON, MA 02114

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Print Name SYLVIA BARTFIELD Signed Sylvia Bartfield

65 Martha Road, Apt # 84 BOSTON, MA 02114

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Print Name Warren Benson Signed Warren Benson

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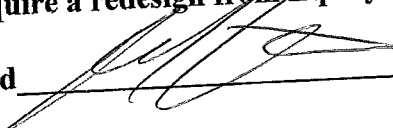
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Print Name BERNARD BERLIN Signed 

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**Please hear my voice: I cannot support this current Notice of Project Change. I request that the BRA reject this proposal in its current form and that they require a redesign from Equity that I can support.**

Print Name Jody Bishop Signed Jody Bishop

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2J BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Richard Blake Signed Richard M. Blake

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2C BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Alberta Bridgeman Signed ALBERTA BRIDGEMAN

65 Martha Road, Apt # 4E BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name ARLENE BURR Signed Arlene Burr

65 Martha Road, Apt # 10L BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name PAUL BURNS Signed Paul Burns

65 Martha Road, Apt # 102 BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name R. Shirley Burton Signed R. Shirley Burton

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7B BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty



December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name DOLORES CALHOUN Signed Dolores Calhoun

65 Martha Road, Apt # 3F BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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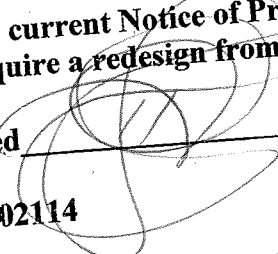
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Print Name Domingo Cintron Signed 

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7F BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Eric Colin-Smith Signed [Signature]

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2H BOSTON, MA 02114

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Print Name Mary Concoran Signed Mary Concoran

65 Martha Road, Apt # 9G BOSTON, MA 02114

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Print Name Desmond Crockett Signed Desmond Crockett

65 Martha Road, Apt # 5A BOSTON, MA 02114

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Boston, MA 02201

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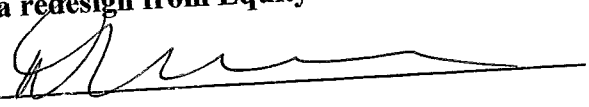
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Print Name Deborah Decker Signed 

65 Martha Road, Apt # 10P BOSTON, MA 02114

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The West End community has actively participated in all of the public and informational meetings regarding every version of this proposed redevelopment. We have submitted comment letters three times over five years at various stages of the Article 80 Large Project Review Process – this is our fourth effort. In our past comments, the members of our community have overwhelmingly supported a responsible redevelopment plan for the Garden Garage.

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Our neighborhood's 700-plus comment letters on the April 2015 Notice of Project Change, have yet to be answered or acknowledged and, once again, there have been no meaningful changes made by the developer in this second NPC despite those 700 plus comment letters. In fact, the size of this proposed project has increased.

**PLEASE HEAR MY VOICE: I cannot support this current Notice of Project Change. I request that the BRA reject this proposal in its current form and require a redesign from Equity that I can support.**

Print Name ANNETTE DE ROSA Signed Annette De Rosa

65 Martha Road, Apt # 3P BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

**RE: 10/6/2015 Notice of Project Change (NPC) by Equity Residential for the Proposed Garden "Bubble" Garage Project**

Dear Mr. McGuire:

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Print Name Deb DeRosa Signed Deb DeRosa

65 Martha Road, Apt # 4Q BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George



December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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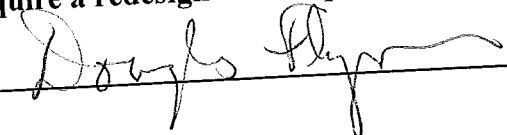
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Print Name DOUGLAS FLYNN Signed 

65 Martha Road, Apt # 9V BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Sharon Fraser Signed Sharon Fraser

65 Martha Road, Apt # 119 BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

Ariana I. Fulginiti  
65 Martha Rd. Unit #11-M  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 263-1032 VM x. 2  
Email: [aifulginiti@gmail.com](mailto:aifulginiti@gmail.com)

December 3, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. McGuire,

**RE: 10/6/2015 Notice of Project Change by Equity Residential  
For the Proposed Garden "Bubble" Garage Project & Environmental  
Health Issues Also Impacted by Project**

For the purposes of this letter regarding the above-referenced project, I shall, at least, open this correspondence by expressing my opposition to the Garden "Bubble" Garage development proposed by Equity Residential, a company that increasingly assumes the mantle of being the neighborhood/community "bully", disregarding opposition by residents of said community with the intent of resubmitting bid-after-bid until the real estate trust company can effectively wear down that opposition.

The proximity of the Bubble Garage to many of our back patios would seriously jeopardize the respiratory health of many of the residents – elderly and non-elderly – living here. Construction-based, dust and air-propelled pollutants would (in this very enclosed neighborhood) hover in the air for days, weeks and months and eventually drift with the wind currents to be inhaled by residents seeking sanctuary on a nice day on their deck or patio or balcony.

My husband has both asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and since we are practically ADJACENT to the Bubble Garage save the tennis courts in between, I cannot even fathom how disturbing it would make it for my husband to continue to enjoy a relatively safe quality of life. There are many residents in this community who carry around inhalers, oxygen tanks or whatever: because of the unique dynamics of Thoreau Path, winding around the area and the buildings and nest like protective aspects of the buildings situated in this community space, there would be no place for the pollutants to be ventilated or properly aerated or channeled that would not automatically hover in our living space whether we are standing on the balcony or just enjoying the day inside with our patio slider doors open.

Perhaps the focus has been too long on the wrong objective: instead of residents feeling marginalized over a proposed project being pushed down our throats by this little snot-nosed real estate trust company, we should flip the focus of attention to the topic of how Equity Residential is performing in the stock market (NYSE: EQR) since 2015 began, notably these past 6 months when the collateral PUSH to get this Bubble Garage torn down and redeveloped appears to coincide with the increasing decline of the value of their insider stock (a change of – 64.62%!!)

Considerable focus should also be directed, by the City of Boston, on the fact that the company does NOT originate in Massachusetts (but rather Chicago, Illinois), is accredited only at their Headquarters office by the Better Business Bureau, with a list of negative complaints (90 complaints closing in the last 3 years, 41 listed as having closed in the past 12 months) that far exceeds any neutrals or positive reviews by customers on the BBB site, and – interestingly – Equity Residential seems to be exclusively focused on satisfying investor interests by turning their board game goals (acquiring as many development projects in Boston as they can) into a perverse ploy by recreating a brand new Monopoly strategy, rather than fostering on building any coalition or productive partnership with the communities and residents they deign to want to invade.

It's a reminder that, in this context, Equity Residential – presenting itself as an alluring and attractive 'date' – eventually shows its true colors by assuming the conduct of the predator or rapist who simply will not take 'No!' for an answer. Kind of scary; kind of ominous – you bet.

***IN FACT, EQUITY RESIDENTIAL'S FINANCIAL MOTIVATIONS TO RESURRECT ITS STOCK PERFORMANCE VALUE BY ANTEING UP ITS PROMISES OF PROJECTED EARNINGS FOR ITS INVESTORS SHOULD RING SOME ALARM BELLS AND RED FLAGS, WARRANTING AT LEAST A CORPORATE INVESTIGATION INTO THE WAY EQUITY RESIDENTIAL DOES BUSINESS: AMONG THEIR OWN RESIDENTS, ENGAGING IN FALSE AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES TO LURE IN PROSPECTIVE NEW RESIDENTS TO THEIR PROPERTIES AND THE FACT THAT EQUITY RESIDENTIAL HAS ALREADY 'GOTTEN ITS WAY' WITH THE COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD OF A TOWNHOUSE AND CONDOMINIUM COMPLEX SO THAT OTHER VACANT OR ABANDONED BOSTON PROPERTIES OUTSIDE THIS NEIGHBORHOOD COULD BE TARGETED FOR THEIR FUTURE CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND GOALS.***

Equity Residential appears – according to a number of testimonials by former residents on various sites – to have violated our state's Consumer Laws (MGL c. 93A) judging by the nature and extent of some of the outrageous conduct complaints seen on the Better Business Bureau's and other sites. Why they have never come to the attention of the state's Attorney General's office dating back even before Martha Coakley's term in office defies logic. So, the Commonwealth and the City of Boston's own development interests and goals far exceed the importance of the questionable issues surrounding the negative aspects of said company being allowed to do business in Boston (MA)? Is THIS the message Mayor Walsh and the Boston Redevelopment Authority wish to impart to us residents?

***The ONLY way to slow down the momentum sought and achieved thus far by Equity Residential in the rarely changed resubmission of the project bid on the Bubble Garage is to institute a new ordinance applicable to all developers: only 3 project submissions should be allowed for submission and, if all three meet with at least 80% opposition, the developer can no longer resubmit a bid for the same project.*** This seems like a more than fair and equitable response by the City of Boston as it strives to preserve some of its integrity with its community properties and to slow down the aggressive over-development by real estate companies and trusts that have evidenced absolutely ZERO commitment to working with their host community leaders and residents.

The Bubble Garage project has been a talking point item for at least 3-5 years!! Over and over again, Equity Residential fails to heed the objections raised by community leaders (West End) and residents and their determination to wear everyone down is certainly apparent by their repeated resubmissions of virtually the same project with hardly any remarkable changes.

As for my own objections to the project itself, I shall confine myself to these four essential talking points:

- 1) We cannot afford to do without the Bubble Garage. Period. After several winters residing in the West End through some nasty winters (2003/2004, 2010, 2014) and a few in between, there simply is NOT enough parking space to be had among residents with cars living in Charles River Park, among concert-goers and sports fans attending events and games at Boston Garden and as a back-up garage when the Boston Garden's own underground garage is full;
- 2) Those of us who are fortunate enough to have found space to rent here in the West End chose this location because of the pastoral qualities of its pedestrian walkways and unobstructed views;
- 3) Those of us who are AMY LOWELL residents (my husband and I among these) have already felt the sting created by the arrival of the Davis Companies who took over the management of the Charles River Park neighborhood and which seems hell-bent-for-leather supportive to anything and everything involving Equity Residential. To the extent that the Davis Companies have virtually ignored snow plowing on the pedestrian walkways on Thoreau Path (which has necessitated some intervention by our city councilor's office, assigning the city to take care of that problem); to ignore surveillance and security requests having to do with vagrancy and suspicious people and activity on our property (here, again, residents are *on our own*, having to contact our area police departments to report trouble simply because the Davis Company chooses not to acknowledge the requests for security patrols by Amy Lowell residents. And, speaking of which, calls to the police department located at Staniford Street have more often failed than succeeded in rounding up those causing the problems simply because of delays in response arrival times; and, finally,
- 4) There is a such a patent lack of an expression of earnest goodwill exhibited by Equity Residential in ALL these submissions, that it SHOULD raise some red flags among the city's leadership and administration to forthwith stall any further efforts at bid submissions until other aspects of the company can be properly investigated (such as violations of 93A among residents at its existent properties, complaints filed with the Attorney General's office, inquiries into its corporate status here in the Commonwealth by the Secretary of State's office, etc.)

In conclusion, then, I appeal to Mayor Marty Walsh, to my city councilor and state representative, Josh Zakim and Jay Livingstone, respectively, and to you, Mr. McGuire, Project Manager involved in this specific bidding submission by Equity Residential, to HALT ALL FURTHER SUBMISSIONS BY EQUITY RESIDENTIAL BY IMPLEMENTING A DEFAULT POLICY AS A NEW CITY ORDINANCE PREVENTING DEVELOPERS FROM HARRASSING A COMMUNITY WHICH HAS ALREADY EXPRESSED – NOT JUST ONCE, TWICE, THREE TIMES OR FOUR, BUT AT LEAST 5, 6, 7 OR 8 TIMES – ITS VEHEMENT OPPOSITION TO ANY PROJECT PURPORTING TO TEAR DOWN THE BUBBLE GARAGE OR BUILD ANY FURTHER HIGH RISES IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD IN GENERAL.

No developer should ever have the opportunity to resubmit bids beyond the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> effort, particularly when opposition to a project remains consistently at 80% or higher, especially when the developer does not originate in, nor show any interest in working with, its HOST CITY and, most important of all, when consumer violations (false and deceptive practices with its own residents as can be read and witnessed on various internet sites involving Equity Residential) exist and financial motives virtually and relentlessly drive the submissions to an end zone that appears never to see an end.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns about Equity Residential and the many facets of the company that continue to remain unnoticed or dismissed by a city bent on delivering

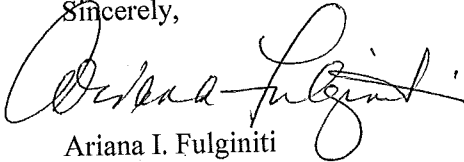
Edward McGuire III, Project Manager - BRA

12/4/2015

Pg. 4 of 4

development goals with such rapid succession that it misses a more intense and needed focus on potentially unscrupulous developers and limiting any territoriality objectives such developers ruthlessly seek to achieve solely for their own purpose and gratifications, operating with impunity, regardless of the underlying murky and questionable reputation it may have acquired in the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ariana I. Fulginiti".

Ariana I. Fulginiti

Cc: John Nihen, West End Community Representative  
State Representative Jay Livingstone  
City Councilor Josh Zakim

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

**RE: 10/6/2015 Notice of Project Change (NPC) by Equity Residential for the Proposed Garden "Bubble" Garage Project**

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Print Name Jean Grant Signed Jean Grant

65 Martha Road, Apt # 6J BOSTON, MA 02114

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name David E. Greeley Signed David E. Greeley

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2F BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty



11/28/2015

Dear B.R.A.,

End this charades. Stop this conard.

No more babbling, this deal is  
now closed! For order of the citi-  
zens of the West End.

Cordially Yours  
David E. Huels

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Stephanie Gores Signed [Signature]

65 Martha Road, Apt # 602 BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Maria Hansen Signed Maria Hansen

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2D BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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**PLEASE HEAR MY VOICE: I cannot support this current Notice of Project Change. I request that the BRA reject this proposal in its current form and require a redesign from Equity that I can support.**

Print Name GLORIA HICKEN Signed Gloria Hicken

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7A BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

**RE: 10/6/2015 Notice of Project Change (NPC) by Equity Residential for the Proposed Garden "Bubble" Garage Project**

Dear Mr. McGuire:

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Print Name GLADYS KIVACZYUSKI Signed Gladys Kivaczynski

65 Martha Road, Apt # 50 BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Rhonda Lechten Signed Rhonda Lechten

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2L BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name JANET LEEDS Signed 

65 Martha Road, Apt # 3M BOSTON, MA 02114

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name JOSEPH A. LENA Signed Joseph A. Lena

65 Martha Road, Apt # 5C BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty



December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Maria Leone Signed Maria Leone

65 Martha Road, Apt # 8A BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Pat Lomuscio Signed Pat Lomuscio

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2 M BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name DAVID MAC DONALD Signed David Mac Donald

65 Martha Road, Apt # 11K BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name MARIAN MACLENNAN Signed Marian MacLennan

65 Martha Road, Apt # 6M BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Michael E. Martin Signed Michael E. Martin

65 Martha Road, Apt # 5-N BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Jacques A Marsan Signed \_\_\_\_\_

65 Martha Road, Apt # 96 BOSTON, MA 02114

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name LEA MAYES Signed Lea Mayes

65 Martha Road, Apt # 9-M BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

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Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Raymond McAvoy Signed Raymond McAvoy

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7D BOSTON, MA 02114

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December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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**Please hear my voice: I cannot support this current Notice of Project Change. I request that the BRA reject this proposal in its current form and that they require a redesign from Equity that I can support.**

Print Name RUDOLF MEYER Signed Rudolf Meyer

65 Martha Road, Apt # 11-D BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Silvia Midone Signed Silvia Midone

65 Martha Road, Apt # 6C BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Ann O'Connor Signed Ann O'Connor

65 Martha Road, Apt # 8N BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Alice R O'Dell Signed Alice R O'Dell

65 Martha Road, Apt # 6-P BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Edward F. O'Neil Signed Edward F. O'Neil

65 Martha Road, Apt # 4M BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name OLGA PAGGI Signed [Signature]

65 Martha Road, Apt # 8P BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linchan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name MARY RENACCIO Signed Mary Renaccio

65 Martha Road, Apt # 1017 BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name

Signed

65 Martha Road, Apt # 105 BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

Maria Rotondo



December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Elizabeth Rowland Signed Elizabeth A. Rowland

65 Martha Road, Apt # 4B BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name JOSEPH D. SABLONE Signed Joseph D. Sablone

65 Martha Road, Apt # 2K BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Deborah Sabir Signed [Signature]

65 Martha Road, Apt # 8A BOSTON, MA 02114

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December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Matt Shanks

Signed Matt Shanks

65 Martha Road, Apt # 6B BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Our neighborhood's 700-plus comment letters on the April 2015 Notice of Project Change, have yet to be answered or acknowledged and, once again, there have been no meaningful changes made by the developer in this second NPC despite those 700 plus comment letters. In fact, the size of this proposed project has increased.

**PLEASE HEAR MY VOICE: I cannot support this current Notice of Project Change. I request that the BRA reject this proposal in its current form and require a redesign from Equity that I can support.**

Print Name David R. Smith Signed David R. Smith

65 Martha Road, Apt # 4J BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

**RE: 10/6/2015 Notice of Project Change (NPC) by Equity Residential for the Proposed Garden "Bubble" Garage Project**

Dear Mr. McGuire:

As a resident of the West End I am opposed to the above referenced Garden "Bubble" Garage development proposed by Equity Residential.

We all want our neighborhood to grow and prosper and we encourage development that will have a positive effect on our community. This project does not accomplish this simple objective. The proposed height and building design is significantly out of character with the existing architecture in the West End. Furthermore, the hyper gentrification of the West End created by a forty-four story, luxury hi-rise will make our neighborhood unaffordable for many long term residents. Is this what the city of Boston and Mayor Walsh wants for the residents of the West End?

This proposed project will also increase traffic congestion and air pollution. Consequently, the increase in air pollution will create an environmental health hazard for many longtime residents of the West End as well as its neighboring communities. City Councilman Josh Zakim has stated on many occasions that this is the wrong project for our neighborhood; I strongly agree with his assessment.

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Print Name Amelia Thomas Signed Amelia Thomas

65 Martha Road, Apt # 6L BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name LOUISE THOMAS Signed [Signature]

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7N BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name URSELL THOMPSON Signed Ursell Thompson

65 Martha Road, Apt # 7H BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linchan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George



December 7, 2015

Edward McGuire III, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name CAROLYN WALKER Signed CAROLYN WALKER

65 Martha Road, Apt # 8H BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty and Anissa Essaibi George

December 7, 2015

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Boston Redevelopment Authority  
Boston, MA 02201

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Print Name Alison Woods Signed [Signature]

65 Martha Road, Apt # 5F BOSTON, MA 02114

CC: Mayor Martin J. Walsh, BRA Director Brian Golden; Councilor Josh Zakim; State Representative James Livingstone; Director of Development Review and Policy Jon Greeley; Council President William Linehan; Councilors At Large: Ayanna Pressley, Michelle Wu and Anissa Essaibi George, Michael Flaherty