# 839 Beacon Street Mixed-Use Project

# Application for Article 80 Small Project Review

Submitted to:

# **Boston Redevelopment Authority**



Submitted by:

Miner Realty Inc. PO Box 51827 Boston, MA 02205-1827

WaypointKLA
29 Rutland Square
Boston, MA 02118
Attn: Gary Stoloff (617) 605-1996
garystoloff@waypointkla.com

# Miner Realty Inc. PO Box 51827 Boston, MA 02205-1827

March 28, 2016

Brian Golden, Director Boston Redevelopment Authority Boston City Hall – 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02201

Re: 839 Beacon Street

Dear Mr. Golden:

I am delighted to submit this application for Small Project Review pursuant to Article 80, Section 80E, of the Boston Zoning Code, for the 839 Beacon Street mixed-use project at 839 Beacon Street in the Audubon Circle neighborhood.

The proposed project consists of 45 new residential rental apartments, including 6 affordable units in accordance with the Mayor's executive order on inclusionary development, and will include approximately 4,500 square feet of ground floor commercial space, all served by 30 parking spaces located at grade and in a below grade garage.

The applicant is 12 Miner Realty Inc., a family enterprise owned by the Fong family of Toronto, Canada, and is represented by WaypointKLA, a Boston-based real estate development consulting firm.

On behalf of the entire development team, we would like to that the BRA for its guidance to date, and look forward to continuing our positive working relationship as we move toward final approval of the project.

Very truly yours,

Gary Stoloff WaypointKLA

# 839 Beacon Street Mixed-Use Project

# Application to the Boston Redevelopment Authority Pursuant to Article 80E of the Boston Zoning Code

Submitted by:

Miner Realty Inc. & WaypointKLA

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#### 1. PROJECT SUMMARY

### 1.1 Project Team

Developer and Applicant Miner Realty Inc. PO Box 51827 Boston, MA 02205-1827 Contact: Simon Lee (416) 817-2308 simonsk lee@yahoo.ca

Development Consultant
WaypointKLA
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Legal Counsel
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Nixon Peabody LLP
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(617) 345-6062
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### Architect

Prellwitz Chilinski Associates 221 Hampshire Street Cambridge, MA 02139 Contact: Eric Brown (617) 547-8120 ebrown@prellchil.com

## Civil Engineer

HW Moore Associates, Inc. 112 Shawmut Avenue Boston, MA 02118 Contact: Jim White (617) 357-8145 jwhite@hwmoore.com

# <u>Land Surveyor</u>

Harry R. Feldman Inc. 112 Shawmut Avenue Boston, MA 02118 (617) 357-9740

## Government & Public Relations

Solomon McCown 177 Milk Street Boston, MA 02109 Contact: Dan Cence (617) 777-8974 dcence@solomonmccown.com

#### 1.2 Project Narrative

The proposed project will replace an existing two story commercial building situated on a 13,883 square foot lot with a new five story mixed-use building containing 45 residential units, 4,500 square feet of ground floor commercial space and 30 parking spaces.

The proposed project will create 39 market rate and 6 affordable housing units in a modern new building in the Audubon Circle neighborhood near Kenmore Square.

In planning the building and site, careful attention was paid to the existing environment with the building's massing and height matching the existing apartment buildings directly east of the project site, and the exterior building materials selected to harmonize with the existing neighborhood.

### 1.3 Community Benefits

The proposed project will offer many public benefits to the surrounding neighborhood and to the City of Boston, including:

- the creation of 45 new residential units in an attractive modern building, including 6 affordable units in accordance with the Mayor's Executive Order on Inclusionary Development;
- the generation of significant annual revenue to the City of Boston once the project is completed in the form of new real property tax payments;
- the expected creation of more than 125 construction jobs over the length of the proposed project;
- a significant financial contribution to the Audubon Circle Neighborhood Association's public beautification efforts;

## 2. DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION

# 2.1 Project Description

The project site includes 13,883 square feet of land area, comprising two parcels of land located at 835-843 Beacon Street and 12-14 Miner Street in the Audubon Circle neighborhood of Boston, being City of Boston Assessor's Parcel No. 2100168000 and 2100169000. The parcels are currently the site of a two story commercial building.

#### 2.2 Project Financing and Development Pro Forma

The applicant intends to finance the project using traditional institutional lender financing.

Total Development Cost (hard & soft costs) \$17,500,000.

Construction Cost (hard cost) \$15,000,000.

Estimated Construction Jobs: 125

Estimated Construction Start 4th Quarter 2016

Estimated Construction Completion 4th Quarter 2017

### 2.3 Proposed Project Program, Data and Dimensions

Lot Area: 13,883 square feet

Number of Residential Units: 45

Unit Mix: 2 three bedroom

4 two bedroom 23 one bedroom 16 studios

Commercial Space: 4,500 sf currently programmed as two units

Total Building Square Footage: 46,850

Floor Area Ratio: 3.4

Parking Spaces: 30 total: 26 in underground garage, 4 at grade

#### 2.4 Urban Design Approach – Building Program, Massing and Materials

The proposed project consists of a new five story building with 45 residential units and approximately 4,500 square feet of commercial space, with a total of 30 parking spaces, 4 at grade and 26 located in a basement level garage.

The first floor will contain two commercial/retail units facing Beacon Street, thus enlivening the pedestrian experience on this side of the building. The first floor facing Beacon Street will also contain the main residential entry vestibule and lobby. The first floor will also include three apartments, resident lounge, conference room and exercise room.

The basement level will consist of a parking garage, trash room, bike storage rooms, sprinkler room and electric room.

The second and third floors will contain 11 apartments each: 4 studios, 6 one bedrooms, and 1 two bedroom. The fourth and fifth floors will contain 10 apartments each: 3 studios, 5 one bedrooms, 1 two bedroom and 1 three bedroom.

The roof level will contain a roof terrace, kitchen facility and rest room.

The building massing is similar to the apartment buildings directly to the east of the project site. We have continued the existing cornice line of those buildings to maintain a consistent front edge along this block. The proposed maximum building height is 60 feet at the street. The stair and elevator head houses as well as the small area servicing the roof terrace will be higher.

The building materials have been selected to harmonize with the nearby buildings. Although the building architecture is modern, the material colors and textures were chosen from the palette of the neighborhood. The siding will be a mixture of brick and fiber cement panel, using a modern interpretation of the traditional window bay vocabulary.

# 2.5 Traffic, Parking and Access

The project's on-site parking spaces will be accessed via an existing curb cut on Miner Street. All loading and unloading will be confined to rear of the project site through the garage where direct elevator access will be provided. Secure bicycle storage will be available in the garage level for 50 bicycles.

# 2.6 Anticipated Permits and Approvals

# Agency Permit or Action

Boston Redevelopment Authority Article 80 Small Project Review

Affordable Housing Agreement

Boston Water & Sewer Commission Site Plan Approval Sewer & Water Tie-ins

Boston Public Safety Commission Parking Garage related permits

Boston Inspectional Services Department Zoning Board of Appeal approval

Demolition permit
Building Permit

Certificate of Occupancy

#### 3. BOSTON ZONING CODE DATA

#### 3.1 Zoning District Requirements

The front portion and rear portion of the project site are situated within the LC (local convenience) subdistrict within the Audubon Circle Neighborhood District – Article 61. The middle portion of the project site is located in the MFR (multi-family residential) zoning district.

Pursuant to Section 12-1 of the Zoning Code, if a district boundary line divides a lot in single ownership of record, "the uses allowed and the other regulations in this code applying to the less restricted portion of the lot shall be considered as extending to so much of the remainder of the lot as is within thirty feet of said district boundary line, and the uses and other regulations so extended shall be deemed to be conforming so long as the land to which they are extended shall remain part of said lot." The middle portion of the project site is less than 60 feet wide and the LC zoning regulations are less restrictive, therefore, the LC zoning regulations apply to the entire project site.

Regulations of Article 61 – Table A Use Regulations

Multifamily Dwelling Allowed Banking or Postal Forbidden

Agency or Professional Office Allowed on first floor Restaurant Conditional on first floor

Restaurant with Take-Out Forbidden

Bakery Allowed on first floor
Local Retail Allowed on first floor
Service Uses Varies on first floor
Trade Uses Varies on first floor

Regulations of Article 61 – Table C Dimensional Regulations

	Allowed/Required	<u>Proposed</u>
Maximum FAR	2.0x13,883 = 27,766sf	46,850sf/13,883=3.4
Maximum Building Height	45ft	60ft
Minimum Lot Size	None	
Minimum Lot Area/Unit	None	
Minimum Usable Open Space/unit	50sf/unit	55sf/unit
Minimum Lot Width	None	
Minimum Lot Frontage	None	
Minimum Front Yard	None	
Minimum Side Yard	None	
Minimum Rear Yard	25ft	46ft

Regulations of Article 61 – Table D Off-Street Parking

For 10+ Units 1.5 spaces/unit 0.67 spaces/unit = 30 spaces

Regulations of Article 61 – Table E Off-Street Loading

For 15,001-49,999 sf 1 loading bay 1 loading bay

### 3.2 Proposed As-Built Zoning Conditions

Lot Area: 13,883 sf Lot Width: 86 ft Lot Frontage: 86 ft

Floor Area Ratio: 3.4 (requires variance)

Maximum Building Height: 60 ft at street (requires variance)

Building Height (stories): 5

Usable Open Space: 2,500 sf
Front Yard Setback: 0
Side Yard Setbacks: 0
Rear Yard Setbacks: 46 ft

Parking – residential requirement 0.67 spaces per unit (requires variance)

Parking – commercial requirement varies according to use

Off-Street loading 1 loading bay

## 3.3 Zoning Relief Required

Article 61, Section 10

Article 61, Section 11

Article 61, Section 24

Insufficient Usable Open Space

Insufficient Off-Street Parking

#### 3.4 Building Code Analysis

The construction of the building will be Type 1A for the ground floor and basement levels and Type 5A for the residential floors 2-5.

The building will be fully sprinkled in conformance with NFPA 13.

The building will be mixed-use as follows:

• Multifamily Residential: R-2

• Mercantile: M

• Assembly (Restaurant): A-2

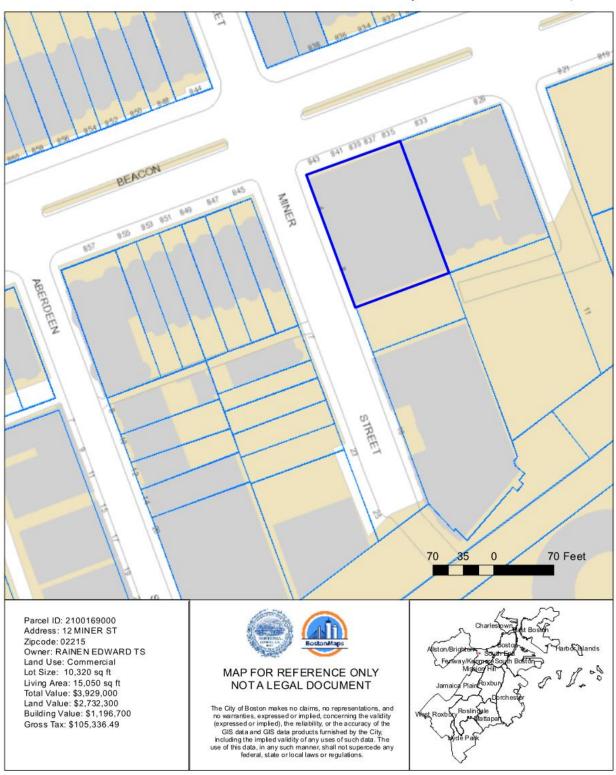
• Parking Garage: S-2

Fire separation requirements between uses are as follows:

- R-2 requires 1-hour separation
- B, A-2 and M require 1-hour separation
- S-2 requires 1-hour separation

# 4. URBAN DESIGN SUBMISSION: PHOTOGRAPHS, MAPS AND PLANS

Exhibit 1	Assessor's Map
Exhibit 2	Existing Aerial Site Context
Exhibit 3	Views of the Site from Beacon Street
Exhibit 4	Views of the Site from Miner Street
Exhibit 5	Public Transportation Map
Exhibit 6	Existing Site Survey
Exhibit 7	Garage and Ground Level Plan
Exhibit 8	Second - Fifth Floor and Roof Plans
Exhibit 9	Front, Rear and Side Elevations
Exhibit 10	Project Rendering



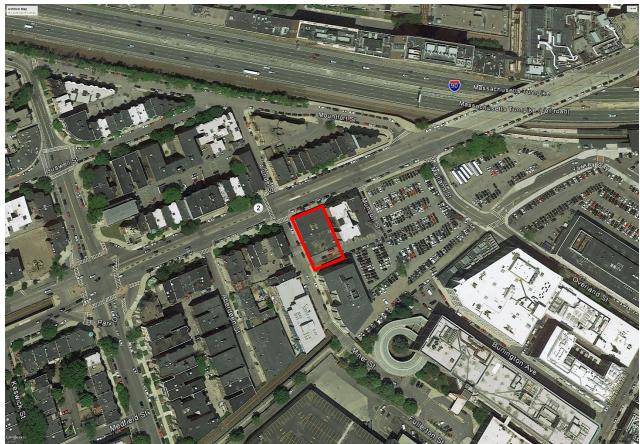


Exhibit 2

Existing Aerial Site Context



Exhibit 3

Public Transportation Map



Exhibit 4

Views of the Site from Beacon Street



Exhibit 5

Views of the Site from Miner Street

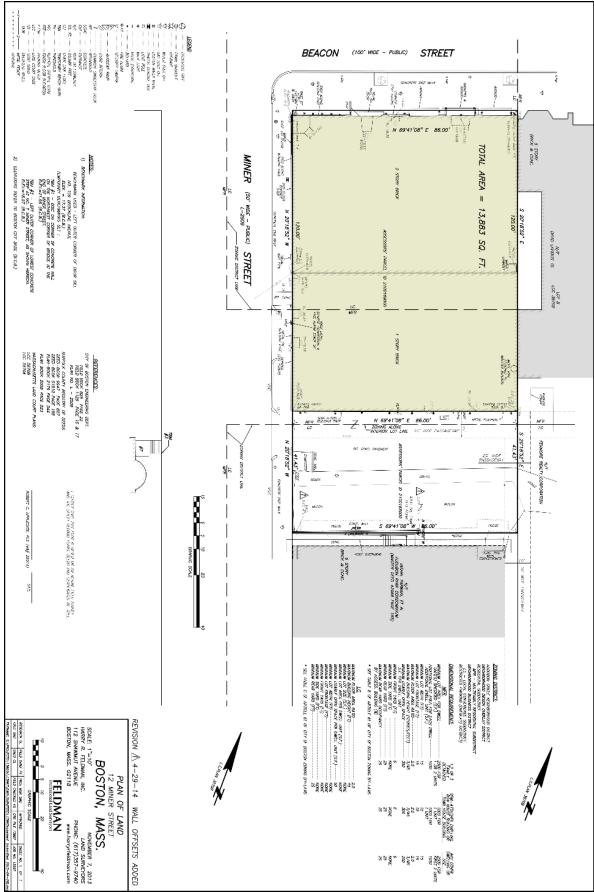


Exhibit 6

Existing Site Plan



Exhibit 7

Garage and Ground Level Plan



Exhibit 8

Second - Fifth Floor and Roof Plans

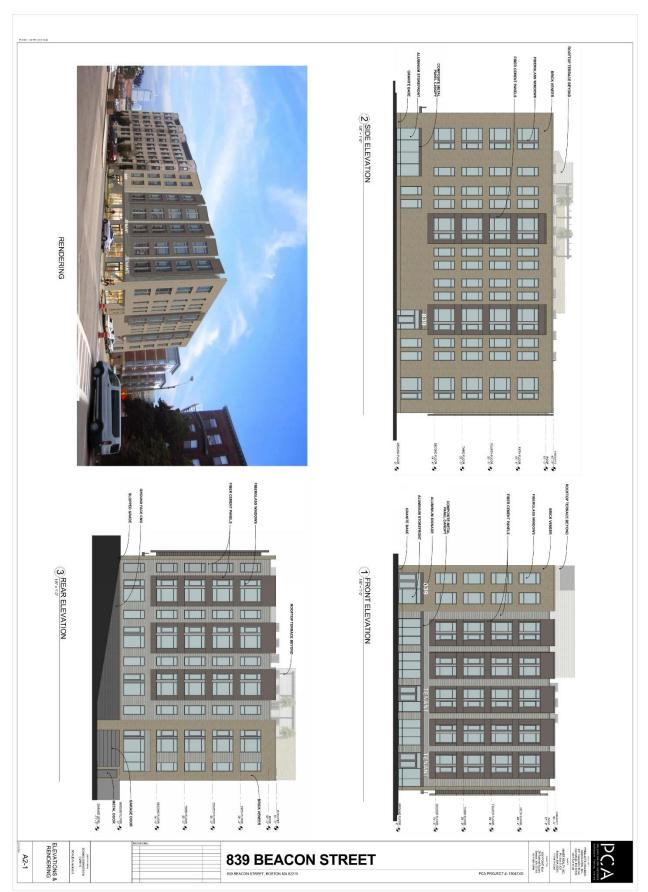


Exhibit 9

Front, Rear and Side Elevations



Exhibit 10

Project Rendering