

North End/West End/Beacon Hill Supermarket Committee

October 10, 2013

The Boston Redevelopment Authority
Attn: John FitzGerald, Project Manager
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Re: The Boston Garden project, 80 Causeway Street

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald,

The North End/West End/Beacon Hill Supermarket Committee strongly supports the planned development of an affordable and full-service supermarket as part of the initial phase of redevelopment of 80 Causeway Street on the former Boston Garden site; and these comments specifically address only that element of the proposed project.

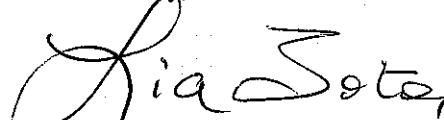
The Supermarket Committee has been working for more than a decade to replace the Stop & Shop supermarket on Cambridge Street that was closed in July of 2003; and this Causeway Street site has now emerged as an appropriate supermarket site for reasons which include its convenient location, its generous size, and the availability of on-site parking.

Trinity Financial has a binding commitment to develop a supermarket on Parcel 2 (A,B,C) on Canal Street in the Bulfinch Triangle unless a supermarket opens elsewhere in the community. This Causeway Street site is an acceptable alternative to Trinity's Canal Street location.

In continuing to support an affordable full-service supermarket on either the Canal Street or the Causeway Street sites, we would emphasize the increasing importance of such a facility given the major new residential developments that are already completed, are now underway or are currently planned in this area. Indeed, the residential population of the West End community will soon have doubled in less than ten years. Our downtown neighborhoods are attracting and retaining families with children, as well as a significant number of elderly people, many without automobiles, for all of whom a convenient and affordable supermarket is critical.

New development in the area needs to address this problematic gap in our retail sector, especially since such growth is contributing to the increasing demand for a supermarket. The absence of an affordable supermarket negatively impacts the quality of life in our downtown neighborhoods. Thus, an affordable supermarket must be included in this project.

Sincerely,



Lia Tota
For the Committee