

Andrew Hall

10 March 2017

Phil Cohen, Project Manager <Phil.Cohen@boston.gov>
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

RE: 1000 Boylston Street Project Notification Form (PNF)

Dear Mr. Cohen;

As a Back Bay resident, I do NOT endorse the 1000 Boylston Street Article 80 Project Notification Form (PNF) design proposed by Weiner. Nor does the Back Bay community, as far as I can see, want this project as presented by the developers. The size in height and bulk far exceeds anything envisioned for this site, as is clear from the 1) Civic Vision for Turnpike Air Rights prepared by the BRA, 2) guidelines prepared by the Citizens for Reasonable Turnpike Development and 3) the community view for this part of the Back Bay. The proposal does not meet the Civic Vision, is totally outsized for the space, in no way fits into the scale of existing buildings, nor does it provide much needed green space at the ground level. Rather than enhancing the neighborhood, it erodes the very character of an area which is the pride of current residents and a magnet for visitors (think Boston Marathon, 4th of July and so on).

Regarding the required Draft Project Impact Report (DPIR), we request the preparation of additional studies complete with environmental impact reports for the following alternatives:

- *A design based on the Weiner Samuels submission to MassDOT in 2013, the design the CAC reviewed when recommending the Samuels Weiner team for Parcels 12 & 15. In this design the Prudential site is undeveloped, except for a low scale building or a park.*
- *A design that meets the underlying zoning (no PDA) and does not request the City to cede air rights over streets or sidewalks.*

We are concerned that two of the most emblematic features of Boston may be changed forever: the Commonwealth Avenue Mall and the Esplanade. These precious public spaces, both supported by substantial private donations and investments of volunteer