Dear Mr. Cohen;

I live on Commonwealth Avenue in the Back Bay.  I am writing to you to express my opposition to the 1000 Boylston Street project.  The tower heights are preposterous and will only add to the current ‘wind fiasco’ from the misguided high spine development experiment.  If a developer claims that the heights are needed to make the project financially viable, then perhaps they should explore a wider range of cost/labor options…or perhaps the parcel should be converted to a park.

The Article 80 Project Notification Form (PNF) design proposed by Weiner states that the community wants this project. However, the size in height and bulk far exceeds anything we envisioned for this site, as is clear from the Civic Vision for Turnpike Air Rights prepared by the BRA and guidelines prepared by the Citizens for Reasonable Turnpike Development and the community view for this part of the Back Bay.

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 the Commonwealth Avenue Mall and the Esplanade remain at least as sunny as the design in the 2013 Weiner Samuels RFP submission.

Please take the long term view and do not permit the developers to ignore the design considerations imbedded in the Civic Vision.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jay Johnson