Dear Mr. Cohen:

I am a resident of Back Bay and I am writing to express my opposition to the 1000 Boylston Street Article 80 Project Notification Form (PNF) design as currently proposed.  The size in height and bulk far exceeds anything previously envisioned for this site, is not appropriate for the space and does not fit into the scale of the existing buildings.  The taller of the two towers will be as tall as the Hancock Tower and almost the same size as the Prudential Tower.  At various times during the year, it will cast a shadow completely across the neighborhood, the Commonwealth Avenue Mall and the Esplanade.  These public spaces are the front and backyards of our neighborhood enjoyed year-round by residents and supported by substantial private donations.

I am also very concerned that this site has not been properly vetted for traffic concerns.   There has been a lot of development in this area over the last few years including 30 Dalton and the new Four Seasons. Both of these projects added additional underground parking spaces to the existing Prudential, Hilton and Sheraton parking garages.  This project will also add more parking spaces, resulting in a substantial increase in traffic at the intersection of Boylston, Hereford and Dalton streets.  This is the same intersection where the Boston Fire Department, Engine 33 and Ladder 15 is housed.  As you know, Engine 33 is the most active fire company in the city and responds to over 4,000 incidents per year while Ladder 15 responds to approximately 3,800 incidents per year.

This project will have a long-term negative impact on the Back Bay neighborhood and will cause major traffic issues.   I ask that you please do not allow the developers to ignore the neighborhood’s concerns and the city’s civic vision and its design considerations.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Shine