

Susan Briere Shafer

Mr. Phil Cohen, Project manager Phil.Cohen@boston.gov
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square
Boston, Mass. 02201

15 Mar 2017

RE: 1000 Boylston Street PNF

Dear Mr. Cohen,

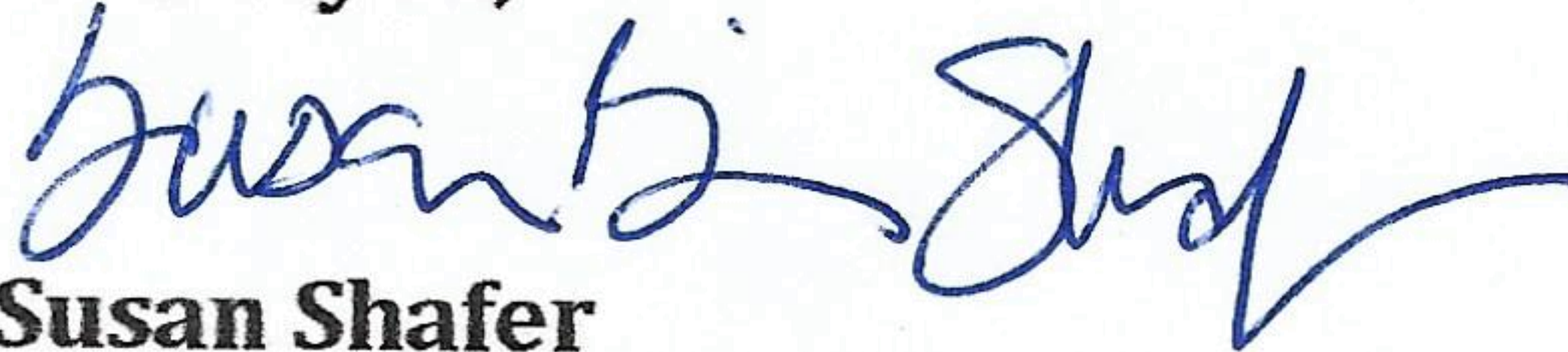
As a resident of Back Bay, I am writing to you to express my opposition to the 1000 Boylston St. Article 80 Project Notification Form design as currently proposed by Adam Weiner. Although the PNF states the community wants this project, the fact is that the design far exceeds in height and scale anything close to appropriate for this site. It does not meet the Civic Vision for Turnpike Air Rights as prepared by the BRA, does little to enhance the neighborhood, disrespects the existing scale of nearby buildings and robs the community of vital green space at the ground level.

The Prudential owned part of the site should be developed as a pocket park for the benefit of the many new residents the building will bring to Back Bay as well as the current ones. The current design takes away green space from the public realm and hoards it up high for enjoyment of the residents only.

The taller of the two towers is near the height of the Prudential and the Hancock towers. At various times of the year, it will cast a new shadow completely across the neighborhood all the way to the Charles River. I am concerned that the Commonwealth Ave. Mall and the Esplanade remain at least as sunny as the design of the 2013n Weiner Samuels RFP submission. These precious public spaces, both of which are supported by substantial private donations and investment of volunteer time and effort to maintain them are enjoyed year round by large numbers of neighbors and visitors alike.

Please take the long-term view and do not let the developer ignore the design considerations compatible with the existing historic fabric of Back Bay and the valid widespread concerns of the neighborhood.

Thank you,


Susan Shafer