



BILL LINEHAN
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR
DISTRICT 2

November 1, 2016

Mr. Brian Golden, Executive Director
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Plaza, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

RE: Proposal for the General Electric Company Headquarters Campus, South Boston

Dear Director Golden,

I write to you in support of the General Electric Headquarters project proposal. This project offers multiple benefits to the South Boston community and the City of Boston; it will bring much needed activation and numerous public realm upgrades to the Harborwalk. This development will include a new state of the art building for their headquarter, along with the rehabilitation of two existing buildings. Not only are we adding a world class company like General Electric to our city, but this will also bring approximately 800 jobs in which 600 will be new hires.

I commend General Electric in working with all community stakeholders and elected officials throughout the article 80 process. In light of the relocation of one of the country's largest employers and the various benefits that this project will bring to the South Boston neighborhood and the City of Boston, I look forward to the Boston Planning & Development Board's approval of this project.

Sincerely,

Bill Linehan
District 2 City Councilor
(617) 635-3203

BOSTON CITY HALL, ONE CITY HALL SQUARE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 02201
617-635-3203 FAX: 617-635-4203 William.Linehan@cityofboston.gov



MICHAEL F. FLAHERTY
BOSTON CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE

October 26, 2016

Mr. Brian Golden, Executive Director
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Plaza, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

RE: Proposal for the General Electric Company Headquarters Campus, South Boston

Dear Director Golden,

I am pleased to support the General Electric Headquarters Project Proposal. This project will offer several benefits to the community, including 61,490 square feet of outdoor public space with a Harborwalk, a new widened pedestrian walkway, and the rehabilitation of two vacant under-utilized brick buildings. Furthermore, the project will construct a new 12 story building, including a glass pedestrian bridge connected to the sixth floor of the new building to the brick buildings, as well as a luminous, four season canopy over the pedestrian plaza to be located between the brick buildings and the new building. In addition to being one of the country's top Fortune 500 companies, this corporate expansion will bring in approximately 4,000 new jobs over the next 3 years.

I commend General Electric for working closely together with civic associations, community activists and elected officials through the Article 80 process. In light of the relocation of one of the country's largest employers and the various benefits that this project will bring to the South Boston neighborhood and the City of Boston, I look forward to the Boston Planning & Development Board's approval of this project.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Flaherty



Chairman Timothy Burke
Boston Planning & Development Agency Board
c/o Sonal Gandhi
Boston City Hall

November 1, 2016

Dear Chairman Burke,

On behalf of the Fort Point Neighborhood Association (FPNA), we would like to express our appreciation to General Electric and MassDevelopment for their outreach to the community leading up to and during the Boston Planning & Development Agency Article 80 process under the guidance of Sonal Gandhi.

We would also like to thank Mayor Walsh, GE, MassDevelopment and Synergy Investments for recognizing the importance of the iconic green pedestrian bridge (connecting 6 Necco to 27 Melcher) to the Fort Point Landmark District, and for making the decision to retain it.

The FPNA looks forward to continuing working with GE and MassDevelopment on improvements to the Harborwalk, especially in regards to flooding; active programming of the Fort Point Pier (Gillette dock); and transportation and parking issues on and surrounding the site, especially the heavy traffic on A Street and the need for traffic signalization at Binford.

In regards to the proposed amendment to the 100 Acres Master Plan, we request that with the approval of the amendment, specific components of the master plan are initiated. The two most critical components are: the funding and design of the Fort Point Park which will run adjacent to the new building toward the Channel and fulfilling the 1/3 residential requirement on the remaining undeveloped Gillette land in order to create a vibrant mixed use neighborhood. We are pleased that the BPDA will be providing the necessary funding for the design of the park and are anxious to start working on creating this important neighborhood open space. Without the BPDA's mandate of 1/3 residential outlined in the 100 Acres Master Plan, the Fort Point community will not attract the services and amenities that a neighborhood requires such as a grocery store and civic and cultural space. Special consideration of future development conducive to residential development is essential in order to implement this part of the master plan approved by the former BRA in 2007.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Sara McCammond
Joe Rogers
On behalf of FPNA
GE Headquarter Project IAG Members

The FPNA is dedicated to enhancing and preserving the quality of life in our community, to broadening citizen awareness and participation within our growing neighborhood, and to building a socially interactive civic life in Fort Point.



Sonal Gandhi <sonal.gandhi@boston.gov>

GE Headquarters Project

1 message

Cheryl Tougias [REDACTED]

Wed, Oct 19, 2016 at 2:58 PM

To: "Sonal Gandhi (sonal.gandhi@boston.gov)" <sonal.gandhi@boston.gov>

Sonal,

As an IAG member unable to attend the BPDA Board meeting tomorrow, I would like to submit this email for the record.

First, I would like to commend you for a review process that has been transparent, efficient and responsive. I appreciate that all presentations and documents have been promptly posted on the BPDA web site and that issues raised were addressed to the extent possible by the City and GE in a timely fashion. I also appreciate the outreach to the members of the IAG and the effort to keep the community informed of the various approval steps.

As a signatory to the IAG comment letter, I am pleased with the response to a number of the issues raised:

- BPDA will include ongoing monitoring of the Transportation Management Plan in the Cooperation Agreement
- GE will work with the Seaport TMA and will not offer independent shuttle bus service to its employees
- GE will conduct a transportation study of the intersection of A and Binford Streets with a focus on safety for pedestrians and bicyclists
- BPDA will conduct a study of A Street crosswalk locations and bicycle lane configurations with a focus on safety
- GE will not plan or advocate for a heliport on the campus site or on Fort Point Channel
- GE will provide infrastructure for artist programming
- GE, along with Synergy Investments, will preserve the historic "Green Bridge" over Necco Court
- GE will develop the space between the 5-6 Necco Court buildings in a manner that preserves the integrity and visual impact of the historic bridge between them
- BPDA will initiate design work for Fort Point Park including a design charrette with the community

I understand that issues raised relative to public access to Fort Point Channel and to first floor uses will continue to be discussed during the Chapter 91 review process, including the following:

- GE funding and support of arts and water sheet programming
- Community access to Maker Space and meeting space without charge
- GE funded improvements to dock accessibility and verification of location of parking spaces that serve it

There are two items that remain of concern:

- Elimination of one of two entrance/exits to the parking lot that serves 839 parking spaces, leaving one entrance on Binford Street
- Resiliency design feature of raised site elevation and storm surge impact on surrounding streets and historic buildings

Relative to the resiliency issue, GE has indicated that a study is ongoing and will be shared in the near term. I look forward to reviewing that information.

Thank you,

Cheryl



Cheryl Tougias, AIA LEED AP | Principal [REDACTED]
241 A Street Suite 200 Boston, MA 02210 | www.sta-inc.com

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Sonal Gandhi <sonal.gandhi@boston.gov>

IAG Feedback

1 message

Murrell-Smith, Charlayne [REDACTED]
To: Sonal Gandhi <sonal.gandhi@boston.gov>

Tue, Oct 18, 2016 at 2:38 PM

Hi Sonal –

Your efforts to keep me informed as a GE Headquarters IAG member are greatly appreciated. As you know, I will be out of town this Thursday and will miss the BRA board discussion and pending decision on the new headquarters building. So this is a quick note to let you know that I am satisfied as an IAG member with the current state of the project including the accommodations made to date. I look forward to hearing the details of the meeting.

Best

CMS

Charlayne Murrell-Smith

VP External Relations & Corporate Development

Boston Children's Museum

308 Congress St

Boston, MA 02210



www.BostonChildrensMuseum.org



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Sonal Gandhi <sonal.gandhi@boston.gov>

GE meeting

1 message

Seth Greenberg [REDACTED]

Tue, Oct 11, 2016 at 1:02 PM

To: Sonal Gandhi <sonal.gandhi@boston.gov>

Cc: Jessica Israel [REDACTED]

Hi Sonal,

In the absence of my attendance at tomorrow's meeting I'd like to enter my strong support for the GE project. GE is a world leader in technology and having them as a neighbor in the Innovation District of Boston is a great credit to our city. The size and scope of their proposed development is complimentary to the existing neighborhood. It is certainly far better than what is existing! Their proposed park on what is developable land is most unusual for a development project and shows great sensitivity in creating shared space along their waterfront. GE tech executives and staff are most welcome guests to our neighborhood and their contribution to our city will be felt for generations to come. I strongly support their proposed development and encourage my fellow members of the oversight committee to do the same.

Thank you,

Seth Greenberg

Seth Greenberg
Sterling Group Management, INC
C/o Espace
635 W. 42nd St.
NY, NY 10036
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Sonal Gandhi <sonal.gandhi@boston.gov>

Necco footbridges

1 message

Karen McFeaters

Mon, Oct 17, 2016 at 2:57 PM

To: sonal.gandhi@boston.gov

Hi Sonal,

I just wanted to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who worked so hard with General Electric to make saving the Necco footbridges a reality. This includes Mayor Walsh and the BPDA, as well as those who served on the various advisory groups.

GE has ensured that Fort Point's residents and workers, as well as Bostonians in surrounding neighborhoods, can continue to enjoy these wonderful structures for years to come. I just wrapped up my Fort Point Open Studios weekend and cannot tell you how many people from all over Boston expressed joy that they are no longer slated for demolition.

As a child I would spend summer days at my grandmother's house in Rockport. She would often send me off with drawing supplies, a pad of paper and a brown bag lunch. She'd instruct me to *not* come back until dinner, which is funny but that's another story. Motif No. 1 became part of my personal history. The red fishing shack which has been painted countless times. After it was destroyed in the Blizzard of '78, it was rebuilt, although it no longer served a practical purpose. Just a shack but much beloved by artists, residents and visitors.

This is how I view the importance of the Necco footbridges. Worn and neglected but things of beauty that connect our past to our current lives and will take us in to the future. When I see them I like to imagine the Necco factory workers who used them in their day.

Thank you ever so much and sorry to be a little long winded. I'm still a little shocked but thrilled that General Electric has agreed to preserve them.

Forever grateful,

Karen McFeaters

www.KarenMcFeatersGallery.com

2 attachments



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