

July 18, 2016

Raul Duverge
Project Manager
BRA/EDIC
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Orient Heights Development Project

Dear Mr. Duverge,

I am writing as a direct abutter and Impact Advisory Group (IAG) member. My house is located at 28 Montmorenci Avenue, which is directly behind the townhouses that currently line the left side of Faywood Avenue. This area is set to be redeveloped as part of phase four (4) of this project. The only thing between my house and the project site is a 30-40 foot concrete retaining wall, with a chain link fence at the top. On top of this wall is a small piece of land that stops at a second chain link fence that borders the property line at the rear of my property. During my time owning this house this piece of land has been referred to as a "service road". This and is currently overgrown with trees, weeds and things that have accumulated there over time. This piece of land has provided no benefit to myself or the Development and only poses to be a hazard. After discussing this property with Trinity Financial staff following the first IAG meeting we were informed that the land was owned by the City of Boston/Boston Housing Authority. Over time trees have fallen on to my vehicle or on to my property, this area is a high wind area and these trees always pose a threat of falling. This space provides no buffer in the winter when the trees are bare and in the summer they just get to be overgrown.

I have owned my home for over five (5) years and have always seen this piece of land as a waste of space where land is so valuable. This is not usable by the development because of its location high above ground level, which is why this land should be made available to the residents of Montmorenci Avenue. As part of the mitigation for this development I would propose that residents of Montmorenci Avenue be given the option to own or use this piece of currently unusable land. I would also propose that is area is cleaned up and a suitable buffer area is installed. It would be nice if as part of addressing the unsightly retaining walls some thought was given to putting a privacy fence atop the wall or some better trees that will provide year round greenery. Arborvitaes would be a nice option to plant in this area. It would also be nice to have the retaining wall built up so this area can be filled in to make it usable, currently it has a steep slope that also makes it unusable.

As part of the mitigation for this project I would request that a more suitable buffer zone is created, that can be used by the properties along Montmorenci Avenue. I am excited about this development and look forward to this development getting the attention it so desperately needs.

Sincerely,

Michael [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]