

MINUTES
DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

March 8, 2022

5:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: **Allston Yards, 400 Guest Street**

Present: Commissioner Mikyong Kim, Commissioner Mimi Love, and Commissioner Anne-Marie Lubenau, Commissioner William Rawn

DISCUSSION:

The project team focused on responding to previous comments from Commissioners concerning landscape terracing, site circulation, building massing, and a need for additional context views. Commissioners expressed concern about the height and length of the blank wall along Everett Street and asked if programs could be shifted so that the Everett Street facade could be programmed or made more interesting. They expressed concerns over Braintree Street being used as a 'back-of-house' area while it will also be very public as be. They also raised concerns that the sizes and shapes of the terraces do not all work as usable spaces and that adding hierarchy to the terraces beyond size would be helpful, as they have lost their organization in the latest iteration. Commissioners also commented that the facades facing Guest Street may still be too wide and close to the street, and that the massing of the tower and terraces are proportionally odd. Commissioners asked for photos or videos of a physical model of the project.

The Project will continue in design committee.

6:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: **176 Lincoln Street**

Present: Commissioner Mikyong Kim, Commissioner Mimi Love, and Commissioner Anne-Marie Lubenau, Commissioner William Rawn

DISCUSSION:

The project responded to previous comments from Commissioners concerning context, site thresholds, and the lab buildings. Commissioners complimented this team's project and presentation. They commented that the ground floor of the buildings were convincingly programmed, that the treatment of Lincoln Street was admirable, and that site lighting for safety would be key to address going forward. The commissioners also asked if the passageway through the residential building could be increased to two stories. In the space between Buildings B and C, Commissioners asked if there could be a more active play use, to diversify it from the rest of the project's landscape.

The Project will return to the Full Commission.