

MINUTES

DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

September 15, 2020

Held virtually via Zoom

5:00pm

Project: **776 Summer Street**, South Boston

Present: Commissioner William Rawn, Commissioner Eric Howeler

DISCUSSION: Stantec and Stoss presented design updates, including a larger open space between Buildings A and F in the master plan, an expanded tidal park and an overall open space increase of nearly an acre, and the intent to use warmer materiality near the existing neighborhood fabric. The commissioners discussed leveraging public space as a driver of the plan, and to consider flexibility presented by future conditions. They also asked how the team would prevent another Seaport diagram from happening. Greg Bialecki, the developer, commented that the building heights vary across the site unlike at the Seaport. He also mentioned that the commercial buildings will be located near Conley Terminal as a sort of buffer strategy. The Project will return to the full Commission for a Vote of Recommendation.

6:00pm

Project: **Herbs Chambers Honda (710-720 Morrissey Boulevard)**, Dorchester

Present: Commissioner William Rawn, Commissioner Eric Howeler

DISCUSSION: The architect and commissioners discussed the challenges of working with a major car manufacturer with its own architectural standards. The commissioners suggested that the architecture can still be creative and well-done given these challenges, especially at will in an urban vs. suburban location. The architect commented that he aligned created a strip of solid material across the top of the building for the textual elements and noted the windows. The commissioners felt that the building doesn't have to read strictly as a car dealership, and commented that the glazing can be more differentiated and the entrance more emphasized. The Project will continue in design committee.