



August 13, 2020

Mr. Dion Irish, Commissioner
Inspectional Services Department
1010 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, MA 02118

Re: **Guidance for Permitting Off-campus Spaces for Temporary Institutional Uses**
Fisher College, Loews Hotel

Dear Commissioner Irish:

This letter serves as a recommendation to approve the temporary institutional uses for Fisher College, as described herein, in accordance with the interdepartmental guidance (the "Guidance") towards permitting non-institutional spaces to be used for the purposes of institutional residential de-densification, issued by the City of Boston on July 9, 2020, and in accordance with the Boston Public Health Commission directive supporting this aim, issued June 24, 2020.

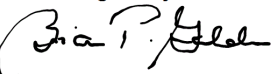
Fisher College (the "College") submitted an application (the "Application") on August 8, 2020, detailing its plans for temporary occupancy of the Loews Hotel in the Stuart Street District Zoning District (Bay Village). The College is planning to occupy 55 rooms (81 beds) on Floors 7-8 of the hotel in order to de-densify its on-campus residence hall and still accommodate these students' need for housing. The rooms will be a mix of single and double occupancy. A room adjacent to the hotel lobby, formerly used as meeting space, will be used by the College for meal delivery and study space, furthering the goals of de-densification of on-campus dining facilities. Students will have shared use of other common spaces within the hotel, including the lobby, restaurant, and fitness center. The hotel is within walking distance of the College's Back Bay campus. All students will be required to wear face coverings anytime they are outside of their rooms.

The College has also provided sufficient detail on scheduling of move-in/move-out procedures in compliance with public health recommendations on limiting the spread of COVID-19, as well as ongoing testing and isolation protocols for on-campus students. The College will staff each occupied floor of the hotel with a residential advisor to manage student activities and wellbeing, as they would in traditional student housing. The College has been in touch with the predominant civic groups in the neighborhood(s) to inform the community of their plans to occupy this hotel. The College intends to conduct student move-in on September 6th and 7th for the hotel.

Given the above, BPDA Staff deems the College's Application for occupying this space in compliance with the Guidance and the Boston Public Health Commission's directive. BPDA Staff recommends that you permit the change of use for the proposed facility for a period of six months, beginning September 6, 2020, with the option for the University to renew for a similar period should that be deemed necessary and in accordance with the Guidance at that time, as well as in accordance with up-to-date public health recommendations. If you have any further questions or require additional information,

please contact Edward Carmody, Institutional Planner & Project Manager, at
Edward.Carmody@Boston.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

D91D1CAD0C8F4EA...
Brian Golden, Director