MINUTES
DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

January 10, 2023

5:00 pm, Held virtually via Zoom
Project: 425 Medford, Charlestown
Present: Commissioner Deneen Crosby, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis, Commissioner Anne-Marie Lubenau, Commissioner Mimi Love, Commissioner David Manfredi

DISCUSSION:

The Project team used a digital presentation to outline their approach and project updates, focusing on siting and open space as part of a planned sequence of meetings breaking down the project. The Commissioners were appreciative of the presentation and the changes to the project, and applauded the team's approach to organizing hierarchy and use. For future meetings, they asked the project team to think more about how the existing rail will be used, as well as how more views and access to the water can be created. The project team was also asked to prepare more long site sections that detail the spaces between buildings and renderings that explore Olmsted’s vision for the view from the nearby park (including views without tree leaves). Several members of the public spoke to raise questions about mobility solutions for the project and how to enable views across the site.

The Project will continue in Design Committee.

5:00 pm, Held virtually via Zoom
Project: 76 Ashford, Allston
Present: Commissioner Deneen Crosby, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis, Commissioner Anne-Marie Lubenau, Commissioner Mimi Love, Commissioner David Manfredi

DISCUSSION:

The Project team used a digital presentation to outline their approach and project updates, and answered questions from the BCDC Commissioners present. Given the length of time since the project's last appearance before the Commission, the project team recapped major contextual planning and mobility updates. The Commissioners focused on the project's role as an important element in transitioning between multiple scales of density, and encouraged the project team to consider the utility and impact of the building's height. The Commissioners also asked for future clarification about the project's relationship with West Station, especially in section.

The Project will continue in Design Committee.