



Pine Street Inn

June 19, 2019

WWW.PINESTREETINN.ORG

444 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02118
617.892.9170

Brian Golden, Director
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Director Golden,

I write this letter of support for the proposed partnership between New Boston Ventures (“NBV”) and Boston Properties.

As a longtime housing and shelter provider in the South End, we have worked with NBV for many years, including referrals to their programs. They are a valued and critical service provider in the South End. This proposed partnership will allow NBV to create a secure financial position and allow them to continue their essential services well into the future.

We also applaud Boston Properties for committing that 17% of the units will be affordable, above the required 13%.

These are challenging times for many nonprofits, and this partnership will allow for the continuation of NBV and the important historical role they have played in the South End. It will also bring some badly needed affordable units to this neighborhood.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lyndia Downie
President and Executive Director

Cc: Jonathan Greeley, Director of Development Review
Boston Planning & Development Agency



CITY of BOSTON

Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

To: Ebony DaRosa, BPDA
From: Zachary Wassmouth, PWD
Date: September 3, 2019
Subject: 566 Columbus Avenue EPNF - Boston Public Works Department Comments

Included here are Boston Public Works Department comments for the 566 Columbus Avenue EPNF.

Site Plan:

The developer must provide an engineer's site plan at an appropriate engineering scale that shows curb functionality on both sides of all streets that abut the property.

Construction Within The Public Right-of-Way (ROW):

All proposed design and construction within the Public ROW shall conform to Boston Public Works Department (PWD) Design Standards (www.boston.gov/departments/public-works/public-works-design-standards). Any non-standard materials (i.e. pavers, landscaping, bike racks, etc.) proposed within the Public ROW will require approval through the Public Improvement Commission (PIC) process and a fully executed License, Maintenance and Indemnification (LM&I) Agreement with the PIC.

Sidewalks:

The developer is responsible for the reconstruction of the sidewalks abutting the project and, wherever possible, to extend the limits to the nearest intersection to encourage and compliment pedestrian improvements and travel along all sidewalks within the ROW within and beyond the project limits. The reconstruction effort also must meet current American's with Disabilities Act (ADA)/ Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (AAB) guidelines, including the installation of new or reconstruction of existing pedestrian ramps at all corners of all intersections abutting the project site if not already constructed to ADA/AAB compliance. Plans showing the extents of the proposed sidewalk improvements associated with this project must be submitted to the Public Works Department (PWD) Engineering Division for review and approval. Changes to any curb geometry will need to be reviewed and approved through the PIC.

The developer is encouraged to contact the City's Disabilities Commission to confirm compliant accessibility within the Public ROW.

Specific Scope Considerations:

The developer should consider the following to be included in the scope for this project:

- The developer should include the construction ADA/AAB compliant pedestrian ramps for all four corners of the intersection of Columbus Ave and West Springfield St/Wellington St. Perpendicular ramps should be considered in lieu of the current apex ramps per the requirements of [521 CMR 21.00](#). This work should also include the re-striping of the existing crosswalks and pavement markings as required to accommodate any new pedestrian ramp locations.

Driveway Curb Cuts:

Any proposed driveway curb cuts within the Public ROW will need to be reviewed and approved by the PIC. All existing curb cuts that will no longer be utilized shall be closed.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024

CHRIS OSGOOD • Chief of Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation

Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499



Discontinuances:

Any and all discontinuances (sub-surface, surface or above surface) within the Public ROW must be processed through the PIC.

Easements:

Any and all easements within the Public ROW associated with this project must be processed through the PIC.

Landscaping:

The developer must seek approval from the Chief Landscape Architect with the Parks and Recreation Department for all landscape elements within the Public ROW. Program must accompany a LM&I with the PIC.

Street Lighting:

The current street lighting in the vicinity appears to be wired overhead. This project shall include installing appropriate underground conduit systems for all street lights adjacent to the project site.

The developer must seek approval from the PWD Street Lighting Division, where needed, for all proposed street lighting to be installed by the developer, and must be consistent with the area lighting to provide a consistent urban design. The developer should coordinate with the PWD Street Lighting Division for an assessment of any additional street lighting upgrades that are to be considered in conjunction with this project. All existing metal street light pull box covers within the limits of sidewalk construction to remain shall be replaced with new composite covers per PWD Street Lighting standards. Metal covers should remain for pull box covers in the roadway.

Roadway:

Based on the extent of construction activity, including utility connections and taps, the developer will be responsible for the full restoration of the roadway sections that immediately abut the property and, in some cases, to extend the limits of roadway restoration to the nearest intersection. A plan showing the extents and methods for roadway restoration shall be submitted to the PWD Engineering Division for review and approval.

Project Coordination:

All projects must be entered into the City of Boston Utility Coordination Software (COBUCS) to review for any conflicts with other proposed projects within the Public ROW. The Developer must coordinate with any existing projects within the same limits and receive clearance from PWD before commencing work.

Green Infrastructure:

The Developer shall work with PWD and the Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) to determine appropriate methods of green infrastructure and/or stormwater management systems within the Public ROW. The ongoing maintenance of such systems shall require an LM&I Agreement with the PIC.

Please note that these are the general standard and somewhat specific PWD requirements. More detailed comments may follow and will be addressed during the PIC review process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at zachary.wassmouth@boston.gov or at 617-635-4953.

Sincerely,

Zachary Wassmouth
Chief Design Engineer
Boston Public Works Department
Engineering Division

CC: Para Jayasinghe, PWD



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024

CHRIS OSGOOD • Chief of Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation

Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

**Linda Luz-Alterman, Ph.D.
1105 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 3-C
Cambridge, MA 02138**

Boston Development and Planning Agency
Impact Advisory Group
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201
Attn: Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa

September 5, 2019

Re: Harriet Tubman House

Dear Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa:

I am a psychologist in Cambridge and for two years I was involved as a pro bono consultant with the Arts Incentive Program (AIP) at the Harriet Tubman House, working with the AIP staff on psychological approaches to working with trauma survivors and using a developmental approach to better understand adolescent girls. The AIP was an arts therapy program run by Lisa Fliegel, a committed and creative art therapist who used the arts - music, dance, literature, visual arts, poetry and other art forms - to address psychological issues caused by trauma, housing insecurity, poverty and other challenges of adolescent girls and their families in the city of Boston. I had never had the opportunity before to visit the Tubman House and I was struck by the array of programs and services it provided to the community and the wide range of ages it served. It seemed to me then, as it does now, a vital resource for the community, particularly now in a time of increasing stress and dwindling resources.

Having witnessed myself what the Harriet Tubman House has provided to the community over many years, I appeal to the City of Boston to hold the restriction and keep this much needed community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at 566 Columbus Avenue, Boston, as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. It is crucial that the Harriet Tubman House be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. In their decision to sell this cherished institution, The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community and used - and continues to use - a flawed and secretive process. They have refused to host genuine public meetings with the black and brown community to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope, refuge and opportunity to maintain it for what is good about Boston and great for the South End: its racial, social, religious and economical diversity.

Please keep Harriet Tubman where she belongs! The Harriet Tubman building is a City of Boston landmark and is in an area that is steeped in African American History. Boston needs the services, programs and resources provided by the Tubman House; it does not need more luxury condos. Please hold the restriction and keep this important community establishment, the Harriet Tubman House, at 566 Columbus Avenue, Boston, as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan.

Sincerely yours,

Linda Luz-Alterman

A hard copy will be sent to the office with my signature.



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Save the Harriet Tubman House

Lucy Aptekar

Mon, Sep 2, 2019 at 4:18 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa,

I am writing to urge the City of Boston to hold the restriction and maintain the essential community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue, Boston](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House deserves to be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. In their decision to sell this cherished institution, The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community. They have refused to host genuine public meetings with the Black and Brown communities to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope and refuge to preserve it for what is good about Boston and great for the South End; its diversity, racially, socially, religiously and economically.

The Harriet Tubman House, the City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, in an area that is steeped in African American History, the Hi Hat Jazz Club—where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed; where the Harriet Tubman House **anchors** the neighborhood. She is across the street from the old NAACP, where W. E. B. Du Bois, Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time. Down the street is Wally's Café, the oldest Black-family owned jazz clubs; the Chicken Lane, owned by Val Hyman's Family. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived at [397 Massachusetts Avenue](#)—while he was a PhD student at Boston University. It's important to note that [397 Mass. Ave.](#) is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by this pending sale. Behind the Harriet Tubman House, A. Phillip Randolph lived and held car porter union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood. The Harriet Tubman House embodies and unifies this significant history of Boston.

I understand that the demolition of The Harriet Tubman House, a Boston cultural landmark, will result in building more luxury condos. For such purpose, it would be tragic to suffer the loss of the essential services, resources and programs that The Harriet Tubman House provides.

Thank you for your important consideration,

Dr. Lucy Aptekar

Dr. Lucy Aptekar,
Founding Partner
Art Collaborations Worldwide



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Sale of Tubman House

Alison Barnet

Sat, Aug 24, 2019 at 2:44 PM

To: ebony.darosa@boston.gov, Michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

I am very opposed to the sale of the Tubman House and particularly to David Goldman/New Boston Ventures. We don't need even one more "luxury" condo in the South End, and, boy, is "affordable" a meaningless term. By selling this building USES is contributing to gentrification. I think USES is not being resourceful enough in trying to solve its financial problems. It seems to me that having closed most of its programs and laid off staff, it should be saving money. I would also question top-level salaries. My biggest fear is that Weir Lytle will close the agency entirely.

I think another non-profit, say TDC or ABCD, would be a much better fit if the building really has to be sold.

Alison Barnet, 55 years in the South End



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Harriet Tubman House

Rita Becton

Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 11:39 AM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Hello. Unfortunately I will be unable to attend the Rally on the 11th, but I would just like to take this time to let you know that I am against tearing down this house to build condominiums. Enough already. Everywhere you look there's a high priced building going up. We should not remove this priceless American heirloom so someone can make a quick buck.

Ms Tubman made an impact in her life that many are still benefitting from today. She's an American treasure & should be treated as such. There are more places where condos can go up. Let's leave this house as a continued tribute & testament to Ms. Harriet Tubman.

Thank you & have a blessed day.



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Harriet Tubman House

Wed, Sep 11, 2019 at 3:05 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Michael Sinatra: 'Michael Sinatra' michael.a.sinatra@boston.govEbony DaRosa: 'Ebony DaRosa' ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear, Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa:

I implore the City of Boston to hold the restriction and keep this much needed community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue, Boston](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House must be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. In their decision to sell this cherished institution, The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community and had used—and continues to use a flawed and secretive process. They have refused to host genuine public meetings with the Black and Brown community to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope and refuge to preserve it for what is good about Boston and great for the South End; its diversity, racially, socially, religiously and economically.

The Harriet Tubman building, a City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, in an area that is steeped in **African American History**, the **Hi Hat Jazz Cub**—where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed; where she, the Harriet Tubman now sits. She is across the street from the old **NAACP, where W. E. B. Du Bois**, Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time. Down the street is **Wally's Café**, the oldest Black-family owned jazz clubs; the **Chicken Lane**, owned by Val Hyman's Family. **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** lived at [397 Massachusetts Avenue](#)—while he was a PhD student at Boston University. It's important to note that [397 Mass. Ave.](#) is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by this pending sale. Behind the Harriet Tubman, is where **A. Phillip Randolph** lived and held car porter led union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood.

Harriet Tubman is Where She Belongs!

LOSS OF SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES CANNOT BE REPLACED BY MORE LUXURY CONDOS.

CONSIDER THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES.

Meredeth Beers Fuller | [Holland & Knight](#)

Partner

Holland & Knight LLP

[10 St. James Avenue, 11th Floor | Boston, Massachusetts 02116](#)

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Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Harriet Tubman

Quanda Burrell

Fri, Aug 23, 2019 at 5:58 PM

To: Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

We the undersigned support keeping the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. We implore USES' Board and the City of Boston to keep it as a much needed community facility.

The Harriet Tubman House must be preserved in its present form, as a Memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education and public service, in compliance with the requirements for buildings receiving public funds.



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Support to Maintain the Harriet Tubman House

Robin Carton

Wed, Sep 4, 2019 at 3:23 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear, Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa:

I first attended an event at the Harriet Tubman House in 1977. It was an effort to create an arts community in Boston and attendees filled an entire conference room. During the 1980's and 90's, I continued to meet at the Harriet Tubman House with colleagues during my ten year career in child care as we looked for ways to increase the quality, quantity and affordability of day care, school age and family child care programs in Boston. For the last five years it has been my pleasure to return to the Harriet Tubman house in order to work with The Resilient Sisterhood Project.

Historically, United South End Settlements (USES) has seen its role as one of community empowerment - expressed by the educational, cultural and public service programs they sponsored or rented space to. This powerful community facility represents not just a memorial to Harriet Tubman herself, but also a testament to those who have worked diligently for equality, fairness and justice in Boston.

The corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue is an area that is steeped in African American History. Luxury condominiums - catering to those who seek progress at the expense of community - can never replace the local significance of this area. Among other incredible aspects, the area has been home to:

- The Hi Hat Jazz Club, where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed;
- the old NAACP, where W. E. B. Du Bois, Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time;
- Wally's Café, the oldest Black-family owned jazz club;
- the Chicken Lane, owned by Val Hyman's Family;
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived at [397 Massachusetts Avenue](#), while he was a PhD student at Boston University (It's important to note that [397 Mass. Ave.](#) is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by this pending sale); and
- Behind the Harriet Tubman House, is where A. Phillip Randolph lived and held car porter led union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood.

I am appalled to discover that the current leadership of USES has chosen to sell this beloved landmark to developers who have no interest in preserving either its history or its mission.

Gentrification has created a dramatic change in this area - but the roots of the South End remain in Black and Brown communities. It would be a tragedy to see this iconic Settlement House transformed into another method of obliterating Boston's racial and cultural heritage.

I hope you will listen not only to the current tenants, but the legions of community members who support this public space. The Harriet Tubman House deserves to continue the vision of the original founders, their commemoration of her selfless bravery and their commitment to this historic neighborhood.

In hopes of a fair and just outcome,

Robin Carton

Robin Carton
Kayak Consulting Group, LLC
259 Elm Street, #300A
Somerville, MA 02144

www.kayakconsulting.net

If you're up a creek, we've got a paddle!





Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

5 more people signed "I AM HARRIET, Not For Sale!"

mail@changemail.org <mail@changemail.org>

Thu, Sep 5, 2019 at 7:47 AM

Reply-To: "Change.org (change@mail.change.org)" <reply-fec516777762027e-112_TEXT-877449473-7259830-1372293@mail.change.org>

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

change.org New signatures

Boston Planning and Development Agency – This petition addressed to you on Change.org has new activity. See progress and respond to the campaign's supporters.

I AM HARRIET, Not For Sale!
Petition by Radical Black Girl · 5 supporters

**5 more people signed
in the last 2 hours**

[View petition activity](#)

RECENT SUPPORTERS



Sara Goldstein
Weston, · Sep 05, 2019



Kyra Jagolta
Westford, · Sep 05, 2019



Frank M
, · Sep 05, 2019



Maia Monahan

Concord, · Sep 05, 2019



Audrey Emanuel

Winchester, · Sep 05, 2019

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This notification was sent to michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, the address listed as the decision maker contact by the petition starter. If this is incorrect, please [post a response](#) to let the petition starter know.

Change.org · [548 Market St #29993, San Francisco, CA 94104-5401, USA](#)



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

5 more people signed "I AM HARRIET, Not For Sale!"

mail@changemail.org <mail@changemail.org>

Thu, Sep 5, 2019 at 11:20 AM

Reply-To: "Change.org (change@mail.change.org)" <reply-fec516777762027e-112_TEXT-877449473-7259830-1372604@mail.change.org>

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

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RECENT SUPPORTERS



carolina De Oliveira Castro

Concord, · Sep 05, 2019



Carmen Welton

Concord, · Sep 05, 2019



Abby Jenney

Concord, · Sep 05, 2019



Christie Burnside

Concord, · Sep 05, 2019



Jessica Estelle Huggins

Boston, · Sep 05, 2019

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[Quoted text hidden]

Boston Planning & Development Agency
Michael Sinatra
Ebony DeRosa
One City Hall Square
Boston MA, 02201

September 27, 2019

Hi Michael, Ebony,

My name is Priscilla Chiu and I want to express my experience at United South End Settlements. I am a parent with 2 of my 3 children in 3 programs at United South End Settlements. Before I go into what I had planned to say at the meeting on September 11, I want to address one of the questions a parent asked at that meeting. She asked why we were not informed about this issue prior to the meeting. A part of me agreed on why we didn't know about this issue sooner but to be fair, United South End Settlements sends out emails informing us of current events. I am sure not many parents actually takes the time to read them because I am one of those parents. Though United South End Settlements should have marketed the issue better, it is also the parents job to be involved in the institution our child(ren) attend.

Club 48:

This is an afterschool program that has helped motivate my son back to going to school. My son, Kalmen, is a brilliant 8 year old in 3rd grade. He started the program in October of 2018. Kalmen goes to BPS and gets bullied every day in school and affected him mentally, academically, and motivationally. He was always telling me that he wanted to stay home because he was not feeling well. Since Kalmen attended Club 48, he has had motivation to go to school just to attend Club48 for afterschool. There were times where Kalmen had missed school but he begged me to still attend Club48 for afterschool that day. I have offered Kalmen to attend a different school and the first thing he says was "Can I still attend Club 48?" Club48 has given me confidence as a parent that my child will not be bullied and reinforces the importance of respect and accountability. Ms. Brianna and Ms. Maritsa (along with other teachers he has had) focuses on aligning with my goals for such as helping him rebuild his confidence and encouraging him to speak up and being responsible for his actions. After attending Club48 for a few months, his councilor saw the improvement he had made when it came to his confidence and since, he has not needed the sessions. Without Club48, he may still be seeing his therapist.

Camp Hale:

This summer was tough for me as Kalmen's mother. I had sent him away for 14 long days and nights to overnight camp. But it was the staff at United South End Settlements that made me feel comfortable

Information Classification: Confidential

with send him away with no communication with his for 2 weeks. Kalmen came back a brand new son. In just 2 short weeks they helped me reinforce cleaning after himself! Taught him what it is to be a mature 8 year old. Camp Hale brought Kalmen out of his shy box, giving him the opportunity to experience different activities that outside of Camp Hale, I would be unable to afford. And since he returned, he has been speaking up like never before. He understood the importance of respect and improved his listening skills. After Kalmen returned home after the 2 weeks, he cried and begged me to return for the next 2 weeks. With that being said, there is not a doubt in my mind that I will be enrolling Kalmen into Camp Hale for the full month of Camp because the growth he has experienced at Camp Hale has been extremely valuable to Kalmen's development as an individual as well as my family. Our family looks forward to Camp Hale to be around forever so his baby sister and baby brother can attend as soon as they are old enough. Kalmen looks forward to being Camp Hale's Camp counselor so he can gain the next level of valuable skills I see the councilors have. I hope Camp Hale will be around for my grandchildren and great grandchildren to gain such a valuable and loving experience. Camp Hale is not just a program but a family.

Early Childhood Education:

United South End Settlements does not take the term "Early Childhood Education" lightly. It is an education for young children. My daughter Prafyci who just turn 3 years old, was in speech therapy and had small improvements. She was shy and sat to herself as she played. She has been in the program for 3 months. She is now speaking sentences rambling off about different things she sees around her and learned at school. She asks questions about everything. She talks about everything. Prafyci whines about going to school on the weekends because she had learned to make friends and play with others. Ms. Ana and Mr. Lee has made it an amazing experience transitioning her into their wonderful class. They helped Prafyci break her shell and encourage her to be more vocal and independent. I look forward to enrolling my youngest into United South End Settlement's Early Childhood Education program as soon as he turns 2.9 years so he gain grow exponentially and gain exceptional knowledge like his older siblings.

Community Outreach:

United South End Settlements hosts events year round offering opportunities for families like mine to interact with other families. I work a lot and I do not have the time to bring my children to groups to meet and interact with other children of all ages. At these events, I get to meet other parents as my children, the one that does not attend United South End Settlements included, meet other children. The United South End Settlements also hosts a community event opened to the public! To me that more community building than any other institution or individual in the South End.

I have told Kalmen that United South End Settlements are in jeopardy of closing their doors thus ending all the programs he loves and he has been so devastated. With that being said, because of the priceless and memorable experiences with the programs I spoke about that occurred just in the past year, I support United South End Settlement's difficult decision to sell their building on 566 Columbus Ave. I support the advancements that United South End Settlements has thoughtfully planned out so they can

continue to support families and empower children of all ages to be amazing human beings in our community. I am confident they will carry on Harriet Tubman's legacy by empowering families in the community as well as community's around.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Priscilla Chiu". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Priscilla Chiu
224 Northampton St.
Boston MA, 02118



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

100 more people signed "I AM HARRIET, Not For Sale!"

mail@changemail.org <mail@changemail.org>

Mon, Oct 28, 2019 at 1:21 PM

Reply-To: "Change.org (change@mail.change.org)" <reply-fec516777762027e-112_TEXT-877449473-7259830-1461951@mail.change.org>

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

change.org New signatures

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I AM HARRIET, Not For Sale!

Petition by Radical Black Girl · 100 supporters

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RECENT SUPPORTERS

**Abdias Maleus**

Medford, MA · Oct 28, 2019

We need to continue to have more spaces for Black Brown folk and we also need to Keep The Historic House as a Testament to Black Victories over Slavery

**Jane Slavin**

New York, NY · Oct 27, 2019

Any building that honors Harriet Tubman must be preserved.



Angelina Camacho

Boston, MA · Oct 26, 2019

USES can find better solutions for the community than turning on its mission to the Lower Roxbury/South End community.



johnny johnson

Davenport, IA · Oct 26, 2019

It needs to be preserved



BriAnna Coleman

Flint, MI · Oct 26, 2019

Unity!

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Change.org · [548 Market St #29993, San Francisco, CA 94104-5401, USA](#)



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

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mail@changemail.org <mail@changemail.org>

Fri, Oct 25, 2019 at 5:03 PM

Reply-To: "Change.org (change@mail.change.org)" <reply-fec51677762027e-112_TEXT-877449473-7259830-1457132@mail.change.org>

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

change.org New signatures

Boston Planning and Development Agency – This petition addressed to you on Change.org has new activity. See progress and respond to the campaign's supporters.

I AM HARRIET, Not For Sale!
Petition by Radical Black Girl · 100 supporters

100 more people signed

[View petition activity](#)

RECENT SUPPORTERS



Pamella Robinson

Lancaster, TX · Oct 25, 2019

Black history needs to be preserved



Emily maiden

Cincinnati, OH · Oct 11, 2019

All these buildings should be protected and the services as well! Nothing less is acceptable. Not for sale!

Deborah Conton



atlanta, GA · Oct 08, 2019

Destroying history will always come back to bite you.



Makala Scurlock

Memphis, TN · Oct 05, 2019

Because FTS



Danielle Krcmar

Somerville, MA · Sep 30, 2019

I believe in the vision and purpose of the original Harriet Tubman House

[View all 100 supporters](#)

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On Change.org, decision makers like you connect directly with people around the world to resolve issues. Respond to let the people petitioning you know you're listening, say whether you agree with their call to action, or ask them for more information. [Learn more.](#)

This notification was sent to michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, the address listed as the decision maker contact by the petition starter. If this is incorrect, please [post a response](#) to let the petition starter know.

Change.org · [548 Market St #29993, San Francisco, CA 94104-5401, USA](#)



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

"Save Harriet Tubman"

Chris Dearbeck

Wed, Sep 4, 2019 at 9:25 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Michael & Ebony,

My name is Chris Dearbeck and I live at [220 W Springfield St, Boston, MA 02118](#), within feet of [566 Columbus Avenue](#), also known as the Harriet Tubman building. I am writing to you today to express my concern over the coalition that has started to "Save Harriet Tubman" and let you know upfront that I am on the other side of the argument, the "Sell Harriet Tubman" side.

I have owned/lived in my current residence since December 2014, and have almost 5 years of experience living next door to the building others are trying to save and those that are responsible for the care and maintenance of that building. It is my understanding that people are upset that this building is being sold because of its original intent, services and the beacon of hope it provided those who needed it, which due to lack of funding, it no longer can provide. While I sympathize with those who benefitted from the services the Harriet Tubman house provided and their strong convictions to hold on to something that at this point is nothing more than nostalgia, it has not provided those services since 2017. You see, to serve a neighborhood is to serve **all neighbors**, not just a single demographic but a community. I keep my property, the surrounding sidewalk, and rear patio in pristine shape because I have a responsibility to all my neighbors as my property has a direct effect on theirs, and vice-versa.

566 Columbus is in poor shape, since living next door starting in 2014, here are the issues I have experienced as a neighbor.

- Their foundation is cracking I've watched this grow on a yearly basis in our shared alleyway.
- They have significant flooding due to poor grading.
- They do not care and maintain their side garden on W Springfield Street, there is significant amounts of trash and weeds.
- Their side stairs and small patio on W Springfield Street side are a haven for the homeless who use the "garden" to urinate and defecate.
- These same stairs and patio are also an unmonitored area to open stolen packages.
- I have contacted the administrators at USES on various occasions to have the homeless removed from various areas and have received the following responses...
 - "Sorry, it's a weekend"
 - "Sorry, we're closed, if you want them removed you'll need to call someone like BPD"
 - "We'll look into it" (which resulted in having to take care of it myself)
- Their parking lot fence which abuts my patio has continually deteriorated and when asked for their attention to the matter I was informed if I wanted it fixed I would need to fund its entirety as they do not have any money for capital improvements.
- Their neighbor on Massachusetts Ave requested they escalate their attention to the parking lot retaining wall, again, that neighbor was told they would need to fund the repair.
- Their parking lot dumpster is a Mass Avenue open-air port-a-potty for the homeless, if you sit on my back patio on a warm day you can smell the aromas of urine and feces; if you happen to check it out for yourself you may even see a pile of human feces.
 - I have made them aware of this on multiple occasions, it simply gets shrugged off.

In conclusion, I support the sale of [566 Columbus Avenue](#) (Harriet Tubman House) as it's sale and those purchasing/developing (Boston New Ventures) have developed a well-thought plan that is respectful to **all neighbors**.

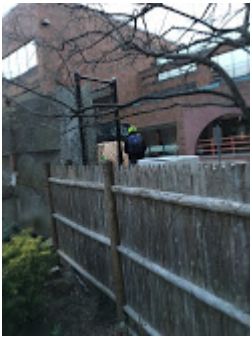
Thank you for your time.
Chris Dearbeck

P.S. It is one thing to "complain", kick and scream until you get your way; but where the truth lies is in the factual evidence, attached you will find just a sampling of the issues I mentioned.

5 attachments



IMG_0209.JPG
1816K



IMG_0210.JPG
2012K



IMG_0808.JPG
2320K



IMG_1246.jpg
880K



IMG_1324.jpg
1040K



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Save the Building

marlene dupoux

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Sat, Aug 31, 2019 at 2:43 PM

We implore the City of Boston to hold the restriction and keep this much needed community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue, Boston](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House must be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. In their decision to sell this cherished institution, The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community and had used—and continues to use a flawed and secretive process. They have refused to host genuine public meetings with the Black and Brown community to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope and refuge to preserve it for what is good about Boston and great for the South End; its diversity, racially, socially, religiously and economically.

The Harriet Tubman building, a City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, in an area that is steeped in **African American History**, the **Hi Hat Jazz Cub**--- where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed; where she, the Harriet Tubman now sits. She is across the street from the old **NAACP**, where **W. E. B. Du Bois**, Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time. Down the street is **Wally's Café**, the oldest Black-family owned jazz clubs; the **Chicken Lane**, owned by Val Hyman's Family. **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** lived at [397 Massachusetts Avenue](#)—while he was a PhD student at Boston University. It's important to note that [397 Mass. Ave.](#) is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by this pending sale. Behind the Harriet Tubman, is where **A. Phillip Randolph** lived and held car porter led union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood.

Harriet Tubman is Where She Belongs!

LOSS OF SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES CANNOT BE REPLACED BY MORE LUXURY CONDOS.



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

(no subject)

Sumru Erkut

Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 9:28 AM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa,

I volunteer at an organization (Resilient Sisterhood Project) housed at the Harriett Tubman House and have attended many community service events there. I can personally attest to the necessity of keeping the space to continue its present purpose.

I am writing to ask you to do the necessary work to preserve the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue](#) as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. These are much needed community services, whereas more luxury condominiums are NOT!

Sincerely,

Sumru Erkut

563 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, MA 02118
617-326-4399

September 25, 2019

Michael Sinatra, Ebony Darosa
Boston Planning and Development Agency
1 City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA
02201

Re: 566 Columbus Avenue (Harriet Tubman House)

Dear Ms. Darosa and Mr. Sinatra,

I write to oppose the destruction of the Harriet Tubman Community Center (the Center) at 566 Columbus Avenue, and urge the city to acquire the building to continue the programs with which the Center has become known.

At the community meeting of September 11, 2019, hosted by the BPDA, it became clear that the current board of the Center were overly new to their responsibilities, most having served only a few years in that capacity. That one of the board members could state that the Center was not a historic building only underscored a lack of comprehension of their charge.

Left unacknowledged or explained at that meeting was the loss to United South End Settlements (USES) of nearly \$100,000 in investment earnings (*not principal*) over the years of 2014-2015, as reported on the 2017 IRS 990 form. This leaves the question of fiscal competence on the table, and thus the truth of pending financial disaster.

It should be clear that the Center serves a function which Boston needs to support- a place where diverse individuals can seek the education, support and neighborhood relations that are critical to the life of a city. As well, providing work space for non-profit organizations all dedicated to the special needs of Boston fits within the goal of both USES as well as that of the city of Boston.

I believe it imperative that the City of Boston either purchase the building and subsidize needed renovations, or make a financial contribution to USES to enable it to preserve the extant programing, revive the programs discontinued in 2017, and make more space for a significant number of rent contributing non-profits.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Fillion



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Save the Harriet Tubman House

Leader, Gerald C

Mon, Sep 2, 2019 at 6:42 PM

To: "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "ebony.darosa@boston.gov" <ebony.darosa@boston.gov>

Dear Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa,

As professor emeritus at Boston University, I am writing to urge the City of Boston to hold the restriction and maintain the essential community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue, Boston](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House deserves to be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service.

In their decision to sell this cherished institution, The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community. They have refused to host genuine public meetings with the Black and Brown communities to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope and refuge to preserve it for what is good about Boston and great for the South End; its diversity, racially, socially, religiously and economically.

The Harriet Tubman House, the City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, in an area that is steeped in African American History, the Hi Hat Jazz Cub---where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed; where the Harriet Tubman House **anchors** the neighborhood. She is across the street from the old NAACP, where W. E. B. Du Bois,

Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time. Down the street is Wally's Café, the oldest Black-family owned jazz clubs; the Chicken Lane, owned by Val Hyman's Family. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived at [397 Massachusetts Avenue](#)—while he was a PhD student at Boston University. It's important to note that [397 Mass. Ave.](#) is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by this pending sale. Behind the Harriet Tubman House, A. Phillip Randolph lived and held car porter union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood. The Harriet Tubman House embodies and unifies this significant history of Boston.

I understand that the demolition of The Harriet Tubman House, a Boston cultural landmark, will result in building more luxury condos. For such purpose, it would be tragic to suffer the loss of the essential services, resources and programs that The Harriet Tubman House provides.

Gerald C. Leader
Professor Emeritus
Boston University



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Harriet Tubman house

Lenore Glaser Esq.

Wed, Sep 4, 2019 at 6:48 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

I am a long term resident of Boston and am concerned that the Harriet Tubman house will be replaced with luxury condos. In my more than forty years in Boston the South End has become increasingly gentrified. The Harriet Tubman house has been Sn anchor for that corner and that community. The City should do more to stabilize the neighborhood. Thank you. Lenore Glaser, 63 Walk Hill Street, Boston, MA

Sent from my iPhone



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Pending Sale of the Harriet Tubman House

tina green

>

Thu, Sep 12, 2019 at 8:57 PM

Reply-To:

To: "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "ebony.darosa@boston.gov" <ebony.darosa@boston.gov>

Dear Mr. Sintara and Ms. Darosa,

I'm writing you as a former Boston resident and a concerned citizen.

As I'm sure you are well aware, the pending sale of the Harriet Tubman House, located in the historic district of South Boston, is an issue of grave concern for many people.

We live in a climate where gentrification has reared its two-sided face in many cities across the nation. I've experienced this phenomena in three states so to date (Boston, New York City, and now DC). While gentrification can help revitalize urban areas, it also comes at a price. It usually impacts those who have been marginalized and disadvantaged the most. It displaces many people who grew up in an area that was once their home; only to be pushed out to less than favorable areas/conditions.

Heartless developers, capitalists, investors, and politicians forge ahead with their agendas to conduct business as usual, and maximize their bottom line.

The pending sale of the Harriet Tubman House did not include the voices of the nonprofit orgs who serve many of Boston's marginalized residents, the immediate community, nor the community at large. It was conducted behind closed doors, to intentionally blind side those it would impact most, and to line the pockets of the wealthy. The media also did not help this cause as they weaved one twisted lie after another that favored the wealthy.

To be clear, people are not necessarily challenging the sale of the building, they are lamenting and protesting the way the sale was conducted. It's completely unfair, unjustified, and detrimental to the immediate community and community at large. Let the community purchase the building! It should be a piece of the community owned by the community.

The Harriet Tubman House has been in the community for over a century, and has served community members in many different ways i.e. historically it empowered working women of color, was presided by Harriet Tubman herself, residents were born there, it provides vital resources and child care services to families and children, and it also serves as a diverse and safe space for residents of all races to gather and learn from one another.

The Boston area has essentially been white washed, and the sale of the Harriet Tubman House to the wrong people, will wipe the community of its once diverse and rich legacy. Many renown community activists lived in this area as well.

Please have a heart and consider the needs of the community. The wealthy developers can move onto other areas of Boston (or abroad) that won't hurt so many innocent people.

Please stand by and support the people who depend on this vital communal resource.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Martina Green

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Harriet Tubman House

Gene Thompson-Grove

Sun, Sep 8, 2019 at 2:40 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa:

I am writing to express my deep concern and regret about the proposed future of the Harriet Tubman House. As an educator who works in Boston, I know the significance and symbolism of that space for many, many in Boston. The optics of its fate is also concerning -- more high-end luxury condos at the expense of the community.

I implore you to find a different solution.

Sincerely,

Gene Thompson-Grove

--



Gene Thompson-Grove

Consultant - Facilitator - Coach Transformational Learning for Equity and Excellence at [Gene Thompson-Grove & Associates](#)



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Re: Harriet Tubman House

Ruth Hines

Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 2:25 PM

To: "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Greetings, Michael,

As a longtime resident of the South End, I can certainly say that the location of the Harriet Tubman House on the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Columbus Avenue is the second location I have known. The first I knew was on Holyoke Street, off of Columbus Avenue, when African-American young females from the south lived there when they had no other place for housing.

Now.. moving on to Symphony Sid, a jazz master, who broadcasted from the present Harriet Tubman House, then known as the Hi Hat Lounge, a lot has changed. No more "Jumpin with my boy Sid in the city, Mr. President of the DJ Committee, we're gonna be up all night getting with it, land of the real cool and crazy... Let it roll!!! Sid's theme song.

What puzzles me is how the Harriet House can announce focusing on the "family", when it appears that seniors are not included as family members. Some kind of way the significance of Harriet Tubman and the Hi Hat have to be preserved with something more than a plaque placed on the wall. Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Ruth Hines



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Harriet Tubman House

Kim Hokanson

Tue, Aug 27, 2019 at 12:26 PM

To: ebony.darosa@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Dear Ms. DaRosa and Mr. Sinatra,

We implore the City of Boston to hold the restriction and keep this much needed community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue, Boston](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House must be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. In their decision to sell this cherished institution, The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community and had used—and continues to use a flawed and secretive process. They have refused to host genuine public meetings with the Black and Brown community to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope and refuge to preserve it for what is good about Boston and great for the South End; its diversity, racially, socially, religiously and economically.

The Harriet Tubman building, a City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, in an area that is steeped in **African American History**, the **Hi Hat Jazz Club**—where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed; where she, the Harriet Tubman now sits. She is across the street from the old **NAACP**, where **W. E. B. Du Bois**, Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time. Down the street is **Wally's Café**, the oldest Black-family owned jazz clubs; the **Chicken Lane**, owned by Val Hyman's Family. **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** lived at [397 Massachusetts Avenue](#)—while he was a PhD student at Boston University. It's important to note that [397 Mass. Ave.](#) is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by this pending sale. Behind the Harriet Tubman, is where **A. Phillip Randolph** lived and held car porter led union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood.

Harriet Tubman is Where She Belongs!

LOSS OF SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES CANNOT BE REPLACED BY MORE LUXURY CONDOS.

Kim Hokanson, MSW
Doctoral Student, Boston College School of Social Work
Adjunct Faculty, Smith College School for Social Work
512.905.4493

Pronouns: she/her/hers

"Love everyone...even the ones you don't like."



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

In support of selling the Tubman House

Jim Hood

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Wed, Sep 4, 2019 at 11:56 AM

Dear Mr. Sinatra,

I support USES's sale of the Harriet Tubman House.

Best regards,

James Hood

Hood Design
Branding + Design

1597 Washington Street
Suite 607
Boston, MA 02118-1914



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Harriet Tubman House Sale

Jessica Estelle Huggins

Fri, Sep 6, 2019 at 1:52 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Hi Mr. Sinatra and Ms Darosa,

My name is Jessica, a concerned citizen in the city of Boston. It is no secret that our city is changing but myself and many other citizens fear that these changes are erasing historical landmarks that have made Boston home for many of us. **I am a Concerned Community Member and I Support the Harriet Tubman House being preserved in its present form**, as a Memorial to a Beloved Leader for Freedom and as a Neighborhood Space for Cultural Diversity, Education and Public Service, in Compliance with the Requirements for Buildings Receiving Public Funds, and as Outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. I am asking Mayor Marty Walsh and his team to PLEASE HOLD THE RESTRICTION! There are ALTERNATIVES! The Board of Directors for United South End Settlements should hold Community Meetings -- To Get Ideas and Input for Alternatives suggestions from the very people that live and love this community. The Community, Nonprofits of Color, Nonprofits serving the low-income residents, Developers of Color, and Churches are all stakeholders and should always be considered when large decisions that will ultimately change the landscape of our city.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me should you have any questions. I'd love to continue this discussion with other community members participation following actionable steps. Enjoy your weekend.

~~~~~

**Jessica Estelle Huggins****Creative Producer | Casting Director | Filmmaker**[www.JehCreative.com](http://www.JehCreative.com)

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Ebony DaRosa &lt;ebony.darosa@boston.gov&gt;

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## Support of 566 Columbus Sale

1 message

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**Joyce Lee**

Mon, Sep 23, 2019 at 3:30 PM

To: Ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear Ms. Ebony DaRosa,

I am writing to express my support of the sale of 566 Columbus. USES is an important part of our family. I have 3 three children who were part of the Early Childhood Education Program. Through this program, they were blessed with caring teachers who supported their development and who have remained an important part of their lives. They also made deep friendships with kids at USES who lived in the neighborhood. In addition to participating in USES' program, I am a neighbor on Rutland Street. Inspired by the enormous impact that USES has had in the community the past 120+ years, I joined the board 4.5 years ago so that I could give back.

Given USES' financial health, it is critical that we sell 566 Columbus or we will be forced to close our doors. With the funds from the sale, we will be able to continue to serve over 350 families and commit to helping break the cycle of poverty. We will be able to expand our program at the Rutland Street location and provide an even greater impact. I believe that New Boston Ventures' (NBV) building will become a vibrant part of the South End Community. The board is also thankful that NBV is providing affordable housing units (more than required by the City), helping existing 566 Columbus tenants with relocation and giving USES free cultural space in the new building.

We would lose everything that USES has built if the sale is blocked. I sincerely ask that you take this into consideration.

With gratitude,

Joyce Lee

USES parent, neighbor, board member



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Preserve Harriet Tubman House

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**Kathryn Kirshner**

Wed, Sep 11, 2019 at 11:08 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear Michael and Ebony,

i wrote you to implore the City of Boston to keep this much needed community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue, Boston](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House must be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. I am very troubled to learn that The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community in their decision making process. They failed to host public meetings with the Black and Brown community to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope and refuge and to preserve it for what is good about Boston: its diversity, racially, socially, religiously and economically.

The Harriet Tubman building, a City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, sits in an area that is steeped in **African American History**. This location represents an area where great African American jazz musicians performed and where Civil Rights leaders met to discuss pressing issues of the day. The Harriet Tubman House is located near other Black owned businesses such as Wally's Café and the Chicken Lane. I add my voice to those who urge you not to sell the Harriet Tubman House but to **restore the building and preserve it as a treasured historical landmark of Boston and the African American experience.**

Thank you for your interest.

Kathryn Kirshner, Ed.D.  
retired psychologist



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Harriet Tubman house

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**Lachance, Lisa ( BIDMC - Social Work )**

Wed, Sep 4, 2019 at 3:04 PM

To: "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "ebony.darosa@boston.gov" <ebony.darosa@boston.gov>

Dear Michael and Ebony,

I'm writing to you to tell you how distressed some of my clients and I are about the closure of the Harriet Tubman House. This settlement house, type hub has served much of the community. Over time, I have sent clients to various social service agencies that have been housed there reliably and with very low cost rent to enable the funds to go towards people in need. I have one client who is particularly bemoaning and suffering due to elder services moving about of the building. She is not sure where to turn to.

The Tubman house has been a beacon of hope and a mainstay of obtaining assistance or enrichment for an entire community, it would be a terrible thing to lose the Tubman house to put in yet another luxury high rise.

Sincerely,

Lisa

Lisa Lachance, LICSW

Pronouns: She/her/hers

Director, Center for Violence Prevention and Recovery

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

[330 Brookline Ave](#)

[Boston, Ma 02215](#)

[www.bidmc.org/violenceprevention](http://www.bidmc.org/violenceprevention)

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Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Do not allow the Harriet Tubman House to be sold

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**Rory JLW**

Wed, Sep 11, 2019 at 8:26 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Hello there Mr. Sinatra,

As a member of the City Government, I am confident that you feel an obligation to serve the people of Boston's best interests. I am one of these people, and I, along with many others, strongly oppose the sale of the Harriet Tubman house. It is of great cultural significance African Americans of Boston, including myself, and I call on you to use whatever power the city has bestowed upon you to prevent this sale, as well as the runaway development that is driving up prices, and driving out families, students, the poor, and our community institutions.

Thank you,  
Rory Lambert-Wright



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Community Comment

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**Jody Leader**

Mon, Aug 19, 2019 at 7:04 PM

To: ebony.darosa@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Dear Ebony and Michael,

I beg of you, in honor of the founders of this facility, in the name of the six non-profits that keep this facility as a haven and as a generative force for communities of color, please keep the Harriet Tubman House for its original use as part of the South End Urban Renewal Plan -- as an entire community space.

Give the entire space back to the community to SERVE the community! You have an opportunity to make a difference and push against gentrification.

History shows that this building was GIVEN to USES to "pay" for the destruction that gentrification ravaged.

Jody Leader  
Brookline, MA

Sent from my iPhone



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Support of 566 Columbus Sale

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**Joyce Lee**

Mon, Sep 23, 2019 at 3:30 PM

To: "Michael.A.Sinatra@boston.gov" &lt;Michael.A.Sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

Dear Mr. Michael Sinatra,

I am writing to express my support of the sale of 566 Columbus. USES is an important part of our family. I have 3 three children who were part of the Early Childhood Education Program. Through this program, they were blessed with caring teachers who supported their development and who have remained an important part of their lives. They also made deep friendships with kids at USES who lived in the neighborhood. In addition to participating in USES' program, I am a neighbor on Rutland Street. Inspired by the enormous impact that USES has had in the community the past 120+ years, I joined the board 4.5 years ago so that I could give back.

Given USES' financial health, it is critical that we sell 566 Columbus or we will be forced to close our doors. With the funds from the sale, we will be able to continue to serve over 350 families and commit to helping break the cycle of poverty. We will be able to expand our program at the Rutland Street location and provide an even greater impact. I believe that New Boston Ventures' (NBV) building will become a vibrant part of the South End Community. The board is also thankful that NBV is providing affordable housing units (more than required by the City), helping existing 566 Columbus tenants with relocation and giving USES free cultural space in the new building.

We would lose everything that USES has built if the sale is blocked. I sincerely ask that you take this into consideration.

With gratitude,

Joyce Lee

USES parent, neighbor, board member



Ebony DaRosa &lt;ebony.darosa@boston.gov&gt;

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**Harriet Tubman house**

1 message

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**Lenore Glaser Esq.**

Wed, Sep 4, 2019 at 6:52 PM

To: ebony.darosa@boston.gov

As a long term Boston resident and activist I am distressed that this community anchor will be turned into luxury condos. USES, the owner received the building for free with many other benefits. The City should use its leverage to preserve the community. Thsnk You. Lenore Glaser, 63 Walk Hill Street, Boston, MA

Sent from my iPhone



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

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## Harriet Tubman House

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**Martha L. Leader**

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Thu, Aug 29, 2019 at 11:15 AM

Dear, Michael Sinatra,

I want to add my own person comments to this general letter. I have lived in or near Boston since 1973. The Harriet Tubman house has always represented to me a key hub for the South End and Black and Brown communities in our city. I was astounded and appalled to learn that due to a genuine need of physical repair, a decision had been really sneaked through to tear down this iconic building and replace it with luxury condos. I attended the recent meeting and felt the emotion in the room for residents who grew up with the services centered IN THIS SPACE, the outrage and the misleading claims about the valuable nonprofits who support community members in so many ways (do you REALLY think they will be situated in locations accessible to their constituency and that their costs will not go up?). This has not been a transparent process, that much was clear. But also, I learned how the land came to be available to the community and the purpose of it. How can someone then buy off that important community resource? I was also turned off by the way the developer stressed all the "good things" they would be offering to the surrounding community, because these are not community - driven but used as a way to try to justify the money they will make. I urge you to stop this process and find a way to preserve this location for its intended purpose. Thank you, Martha Leader

We implore the City of Boston to hold the restriction and keep this much needed community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue, Boston](#) as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House must be preserved in its present form, as a memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education, and public service. In their decision to sell this cherished institution, The United South End Settlements (USES) chose not to engage the community and had used—and continues to use a flawed and secretive process. They have refused to host genuine public meetings with the Black and Brown community to let them make a good faith attempt to buy the building. The community wants to preserve this place of hope and refuge to preserve it for what is good about Boston and great for the South End; its diversity, racially, socially, religiously and economically.

The Harriet Tubman building, a City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, in an area that is steeped in **African American History**, the **Hi Hat Jazz Club**—where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed; where she, the Harriet Tubman now sits. She is across the street from the old **NAACP**, where **W. E. B. Du Bois**, Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time. Down the street is **Wally's Café**, the oldest Black-family owned jazz clubs; the **Chicken Lane**, owned by Val Hyman's Family. **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** lived at [397 Massachusetts Avenue](#)—while he was a PhD student at Boston University. It's important to note that [397 Mass. Ave.](#) is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by this pending sale. Behind the Harriet Tubman, is where **A. Phillip Randolph** lived and held car porter led union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood.

**Harriet Tubman is Where She Belongs!**

**LOSS OF SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES CANNOT BE REPLACED BY MORE  
LUXURY CONDOS.**



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Harriett Tubman House

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**Liliana Mickle**

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Cc: "Sis. Elisia Walker Walker"

Fri, Aug 30, 2019 at 10:06 PM

Good evening Mr. Sinatra,

I just received notice that the Harriet Tubman House is being sold off to the highest bidder with September. I wanted to share with you my experience with the Tubman House. I am a community member. I had the great fortune to teach computer courses to adults at the time and house number of years ago. It was exciting to see senior citizens they had never touch the computer get the opportunity to search the web learn how to use Microsoft office and create Documents once they gain the experience.

My daughter also participated in a number of summer programs there and was a part of the art program as well.

The Tubman House has meant a lot to many people and to take a turn a landmark into condominiums and sell it to the highest bidder would be a shame and a true loss to South End community.

I pray that the City will consider maintaining the culture and the rich history of the South End by maintaining the legacy of the Harriet Tubman House.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email.

Warmest regards  
Liliana Mickle

Sent from my iPhone

On behalf of parents of children currently enrolled in the United South End Settlements' Early Childhood Education (ECE), club48 out of school time and Camp Hale programs, we stand behind the organization's incredibly difficult decision to sell and redevelop its property at 566 Columbus Avenue.

We come from the 375 children from 256 families who live in 17 neighborhoods within the city of Boston. 104 of USES families have more than one child in these programs. We represent many different racial, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds but we have a unified vision for what USES is and can be in the 21st century.

To say that the decisions that USES's leadership has faced over the last several years are difficult would be to undersell its predicament. The city of Boston is growing and evolving every single day, and it is incumbent upon the institutions that make up the city to adapt in stride with both global and local changes.

We are acutely aware of the attachment, sentimentality, and utility that our neighbors have derived from 566 Columbus Ave for many, many years. We do not, in the least, wish to downplay the tangible anger and resentment that have been brought to the surface in the face of this proposed redevelopment. USES has an undeniably deep history in this city and has been a bedrock of the South End's community since at least 1892. None of us want to see that change!

"USES's mission is to harness the power of our diverse community to disrupt the cycle of poverty for children and families. We believe that as families stabilize through access to increased resources, become more resilient, and build a diverse network of relationships, they and their children are more likely to develop the skills they need to succeed and break the cycle of poverty."

We, as parents, are incredibly grateful for the welcoming faces of the teachers and staff that greet our families each and every day at 48 Rutland Street. They are innocent bystanders in the cross-fire of development and political shifts. Further, we are meaningfully appreciative of the diverse group of children and families that come together in this space to grow and learn from each other. This exposure to children and families of diverse racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds provides our children with a unique experience at a young age that is not widely available. Simply put, diversity and inclusion are what make USES the remarkable organization and community that it is. To lose the power of such a deep-rooted institution is an especially grave threat to the South End's legacy of familiarity.

It is our understanding that without this sale of 566 Columbus Avenue, USES will face dire financial consequences. In all likelihood, the organization will not be able to persist beyond this current generation of program participants.

We know that our city is a living thing that must evolve and advance in the face of a competitive world. USES is an organization that can and should continue to provide necessary and valuable services to our diverse community well into the future. The question we must ask: can we tolerate a South End without BOTH the Tubman House and USES? Sadly, that is a proposal we may be faced with if this redevelopment proposal comes up short.

We would humbly ask that you lend your support to the organization over the property; the people over the bricks; the mission over the fear of change. With this said, we believe that USES will offer exponentially improved facilities on Rutland Street, revamped and expanded curricula and, most importantly, opportunities to thousands of children and families in the generations to come.

With appreciation for the continued consideration and discourse that this process mandates,

The undersigned USES Parents & Caregivers:



|                       |                                      |                                 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Aaron P Dushku        | Diane Macaluso                       | Michael Flood                   |
| Adaleta Maslo-Krkovic | Dominic and Camie Berardi            | Michael Flynn                   |
| Ahmed Khorsi          | Ethan Brackett                       | Michael Licker                  |
| Alicia Greenidge      | Ethel Bullitt                        | Miriam Paredes                  |
| Alihi Weight          | Farah Guillobel                      | Nadine Coleman                  |
| Analiza Traub         | Gabriela Cruzado                     | Omayra Rivera                   |
| Andrea Cafarelle      | Giverny Francisco                    | Pamela Butz                     |
| Angela Feraco         | Heidi Brewster                       | Patricia Belden and Kevin Kelly |
| Angela Feraco         | J. Eric Hankwitz                     | Patricia Horan                  |
| Asjadoll Howell       | Jackie Jaeger                        | Patrick and Leigh Ann Haydon    |
| Bandita Joarder       | Jeanne M. Pelletier                  | Peter V. Johannsen              |
| Benjamin P. Smith     | Jeffrey Hamilton, Jr.                | Rachael Licker                  |
| Beth Schmieta         | Jeffrey L Klug                       | Rachel Peck                     |
| Brenton Mar           | Jenna LaRochelle                     | Rachel Peck                     |
| Britta P. Hiester     | Jessica Bruno                        | Rica Reyes                      |
| Carolyn Lowell        | Julia Johannsen                      | Robin Wigmore                   |
| Cary Weir Lytle       | Karoline Peralta                     | Rodney Coleman                  |
| Cecilie Everly        | Katie Hamilton                       | Ronan O'Connor                  |
| Charles Aldrich       | Katy Roberts and Christopher Grace   | Rosa Rosario                    |
| Chris Borger          | Katy Wetzel                          | Ruchieka vij                    |
| Chris Byrnes          | Kelsey Montgomery                    | Sarah Mooradian                 |
| Chrissy Holt          | Kerryn Hinds                         | Settenah Savoy                  |
| Christopher Dorin     | Kim Foltz                            | Shanyce Parker                  |
| Christopher Lowell    | Kristin Sbarra Conway                | Silvia Buonamici                |
| Claire Borger         | Lauren Allen                         | Steven M. Pelletier             |
| Courtney Petersen     | Madeleine Steczynski & Pedro Morales | Tamara Baer                     |
| Crystal Harwood       | Maicharia Weir Lytle                 | Tammy Pena                      |
| Crystal Harwood       | Matthew Petersen                     | Veronika Brozek                 |
| Daliza Alvarez        | Melani Daniels-Llanos                | Whitney Miller                  |
| Darren Wetzel         | Melissa Andrade                      | William Miller                  |
| David Black           | Meriem Khireddine                    | Zena Lum                        |

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| David Black           | Meriem Khireddine                    | Zena Lum                        |



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

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**566 Columbus Ave**

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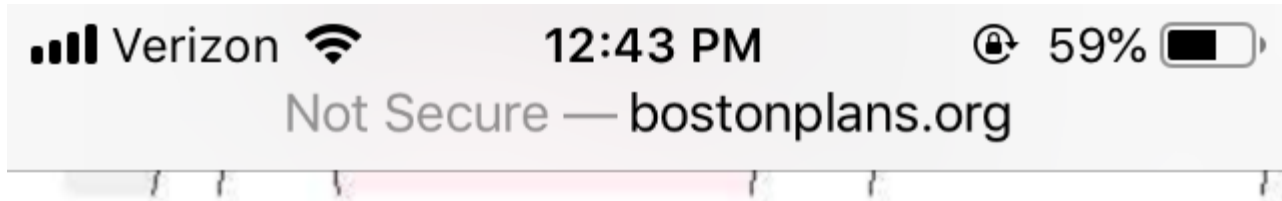
**Mike Reinders**

Sun, Sep 8, 2019 at 3:33 PM




To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov, mayor@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov, charles.yance@boston.gov,

Hi All,

I appreciate all the considerations in developing this property. However currently I need to OPPOSE it for the footprint and safety. I've included a few pictures from the 243 page report that I read or skimmed through. My reasons for opposing the current building proposal are listed below the pictures and I'd like the reasons to be taken into account against the project unless the issues get resolved.





Verizon  12:43 PM  58%   
Not Secure — bostonplans.org

566 Columbus Avenue Boston, Massachusetts

PROPOSED PROJECT  
COLUMBUS AVENUE

JGE GARLAND  
124 of 243



PROPOSED PROJECT  
WEST SPRINGFIELD STREET

566 Columbus Avenue Boston, Massachusetts



The proposed building exceeds the setbacks of the current building and causes many problems. The new building should be in the existing footprint or minimum needs to be pulled back 5 feet like majority of all southend buildings.

1) The building balconies overhang the sidewalk, the water, ice dams / icicles and snow will fall on people using the sidewalk especially on Springfield.

It is unsafe during different weather conditions to walk underneath / next to the building. An example would be Susan Balis at [352 Massachusetts Ave](#). They put out cones on the sidewalk and caution tape for ice dams falling on the sidewalk! Endangering citizens this way will open both the developers and the city to lawsuits.

2) The building will produce an amazing amount of trash compared to current users. I'm not sure how many rolling dumpsters are planned, but they should be rolled out onto Mass Ave near the car ramp, NOT on Columbus Ave near Springfield at the proposed additional cut out of parking. TDC at [400 Mass Ave](#) is a 40 unit building and I believe gets trash pick up 6 days a week.

Having 2-3 dumpsters(I assume) on the sidewalk for 2-3 hours waiting or post-pick up is unacceptable! The garbage truck will be parked in the bike lane and on the road where we already have excessive trucks parked in the median servicing the businesses on Columbus Ave. Also Fedex, UPS, Amazon currently use the median and they are not servicing 60+plus units at the proposed building. The USPS also double parks in front of Dunkin' Donuts and at Springfield and Columbus dropping off mail and or picking up.

Again the dumpsters need to be on Mass Ave next to parking ramp. Garbage truck can pull behind bus stop and not obstruct traffic.

3). Where does the snow and slush go? It is illegal to push it onto the roadway. I think back a few years to the 9 foot snow piles on the corners. Do they only clear 3 or 4 feet of sidewalk and pile the remainder on the other part or at the trees that I'd assume would be planted? As the snow melts and freezes on the sidewalk it presents a safety issue caused by the building and city in approving it.

Push back the building minimum of 5 feet and you have room for snow falls whether it be an inch or 12. The snow replenishes our water supply and if hauled away is not replenishing it causing neighbors' pilings to rot.

4) City requires public bike racks for new buildings. Where are they going to go and how many? There are about 20 at the new building at Harrison & Malden Sts that was also built to the sidewalk and now you have bikes that take up 4-5 feet of sidewalk. Where are the Blue Bikes rentals going? On the sidewalk like previously when it was at SRV or on the road taking up valued parking spaces? Currently private parking spaces are going from \$250-\$400 in this area without 66 plus units or possibly 132 plus new residents.

5) There will be tree planters along the sidewalk approximately 2'x4'. There is a bus shelter on Mass Ave, approximately 5'x12', three utility boxes on Columbus 3'x2', light poles throughout, traffic signal post, 5 parking signs, and trash and recycling. All of these will interfere with pedestrian flow in addition to the bicycle racks, dumpsters and snow mentioned above.

Those are my main concerns on having the building built to almost the full footprint of the lot. It should remain with existing footprint or be pulled back minimum 5 feet similar to the one section abutting the neighbor on Springfield and like the corner of Mass Ave and Columbus where it is setback for outdoor seating for the cafe.

Sincerely,

Mike Reinders  
[26 Wellington St, #3](#)  
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

[566 Columbus Ave](#) report  
<http://www.bostonplans.org/getattachment/1037790b-bb78-4641-b94a-d132be4c756e>



Ebony DaRosa &lt;ebony.darosa@boston.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: Harriet Tubman House**

1 message

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**Rita Becton**

To: ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 11:41 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rita Becton** <ritabecton@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Sep 3, 2019, 11:39 AM

Subject: Harriet Tubman House

To: &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

Hello. Unfortunately I will be unable to attend the Rally on the 11th, but I would just like to take this time to let you know that I am against tearing down this house to build condominiums. Enough already. Everywhere you look there's a high priced building going up. We should not remove this priceless American heirloom so someone can make a quick buck.

Ms Tubman made an impact in her life that many are still benefitting from today. She's an American treasure & should be treated as such. There are more places where condos can go up. Let's leave this house as a continued tribute & testament to Ms. Harriet Tubman.

Thank you & have a blessed day.





Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

# They're victimizing themselves.

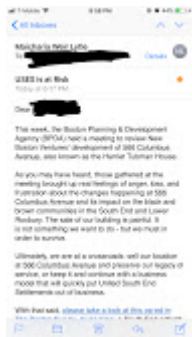
Jenny Rodriguez

Thu, Aug 22, 2019 at 9:21 PM

To: Michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

They're victimizing themselves and trying to receive support from the wealthier and more privileged side of the USES community. They have raised prices for everyone besides the families with vouchers but easily brought to a fix, they have limited the amount of voucher spots in the rooms so it's less to deal with. Someone has to stop them, stop Macharia and her crew. They're completely disregarding what their mission is and don't really care if they do because for them, it's all about the money. It's incredible to think that 700\$+ a week for an infant at USES is given and they have overworked workers getting paid minimum wage no matter the experience. Workers there go years without getting a raise but together, the teachers help each other out by supporting one another. No one gets much support from anyone after the front desk. After Shalisa, or even the leader before her, left USES has not been the same. We have had co workers that made ONE mistake got fired and was asked to take her three kids out of USES because they know damn well, it would be bad publicity for USES and will affect how they do in the community. Well guess what. It did exactly the opposite of what they wanted to do. I say, THE SOUTH END COMMUNITY SHOULD GO FULL OUT ON USES AND GET THEM TO DO WHATS RIGHT FOR THE COMMUNITY NO MATTER THE COST.

-a concern family member, co worker, friend, and resident of the south end.



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914K



Ebony DaRosa <ebony.darosa@boston.gov>

**Sale of the Harriet Tubman House**

2 messages

**Rory JLW**

To: ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Wed, Sep 11, 2019 at 8:28 PM

Hello there, Ms. Darosa,

As a member of the City Government, I am confident that you feel an obligation to serve the people of Boston's best interests. I am one of these people, and I, along with many others, strongly oppose the sale of the Harriet Tubman house. It is of great cultural significance African Americans of Boston, including myself, and I call on you to use whatever power the city has bestowed upon you to prevent this sale, as well as the runaway development that is driving up prices, and driving out families, students, the poor, and our community institutions.

Thank you,  
Rory Lambert-Wright

**Ebony DaRosa** <ebony.darosa@boston.gov>

To: Rory JLW

Hello Rory,

Thank you for sending your comment. I assure you that we take every comment into consideration and will be sharing your comment with the development team. I appreciate your feedback!

Have a great day,  
Ebony

[Quoted text hidden]  
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**Ebony DaRosa**

*Project Manager*

617.918.4419

**Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA)**

One City Hall Square | Boston, MA 02201

[bostonplans.org](http://bostonplans.org)



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Do not allow the Harriet Tubman House to be turned into Luxury Condos

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**Elizabeth Saunders**

Thu, Sep 5, 2019 at 10:04 AM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Dear Mr. Sinatra and Ms. DaRosa,

I am writing about the Harriet Tubman House at [566 Columbus Avenue](#). I understand that it is slated to be turned into luxury condos. This decision is the the wrong direction for the property, the neighborhood and the city, and I urge you to prevent this development from going forward.

Harriet Tubman is a revered leader in our country because of her courage in fighting against racism and for justice for black people, despite incredible danger to herself. This building has been a tribute to her memory since 1975 - housing important community building organizations and activities that have supported and lifted up the black community (and others) and carried on her legacy.

The building at 566 Columbus is the current incarnation of an organization which started over 100 years ago to provide shelter and support to black women who came to the north to seek safety and a better life. To allow this building to be replaced by luxury condominiums - which will contribute to the neighborhood and the city at large becoming unaffordable for poor and working class people (including many black people) is at best, ironic, and at worst a decision steeped in racism.

It shows blatant disregard for the people in our city who are the most overburdened by economic, environmental and social harms. To go forward to this project is to loudly send the message to some of the people in the city who are carrying the heaviest burdens: "We don't care about you."

Boston can do better.

Please use every means necessary to prevent this project from going forward.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Saunders  
[39 Codman Hill Ave.](#)  
[Dorchester, MA 02124](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Elizabeth Saunders**  
**Massachusetts Director**  
**Clean Water Action & Clean Water Fund**

Pronouns: she/her/hers

[88 Broad Street](#), Lower Level  
Boston, MA 02110

[www.cleanwateraction.org](http://www.cleanwateraction.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

This message, including any attachments, is intended only for the use of the person(s) to whom it

9/5/2019

City of Boston Mail - Do not allow the Harriet Tubman House to be turned into Luxury Condos

is addressed. If you receive this email in error, please delete it. Thank You.



Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

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## 566 Columbus Ave

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**Reed Scranton**

Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 9:35 AM

To: Mike Reinders

Cc: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "ebony.darosa@boston.gov" <ebony.darosa@boston.gov>, "mayor@boston.gov" <mayor@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>, "charles.yance@boston.gov" <charles.yance@boston.gov>,

I also agree with Mike Reinders and oppose this proposal for the same reasons.

Thank you,  
Reed Scranton  
19 Wellington st

On Sep 8, 2019, at 3:33 PM, Mike Reinders

wrote:

Hi All,

I appreciate all the considerations in developing this property. However currently I need to OPPOSE it for the footprint and safety. I've included a few pictures from the 243 page report that I read or skimmed through. My reasons for opposing the current building proposal are listed below the pictures and I'd like the reasons to be taken into account against the project unless the issues get resolved.

<image2.png>

<image3.png>

[Quoted text hidden]



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Public Comment on 566 Columbus Avenue Proposal

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**Richard Shibley**

Sat, Sep 21, 2019 at 1:24 PM

To: ebony.darosa@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Cc: michelle.wu@boston.gov, Jon Santiago &lt;Jon.Santiago@mahouse.gov&gt;, annissa.essaibi-george@boston.gov, a.e.george@boston.gov, Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov, Ed.Flynn@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov, faisa.sharif@boston.gov, brian.golden@boston.gov, brian.p.golden@boston.gov

RICHARD P.F. SHIBLEY

41 RUTLAND STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02118

September 18, 2019

Ms. Ebony DaRosa

Mr. Michael Sinatra

Boston Planning &amp; Development Agency

One City Hall Plaza

Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. DaRosa and Mr. Sinatra:

I write in support of the proposed development at [566 Columbus Avenue](#).

If approved, this would allow United South End Settlements ("USES") to sell this poorly designed 1975 building and commit the proceeds to consolidating the agency's programs at the Rutland Street campus.

I live at [35 - 43 Rutland Street](#), in the building where I grew up, directly across the street from the Children's Art Centre at 36 and the old USES House at [48 Rutland Street](#).

In the interest of transparency, I declare that neither I nor any member of my family has ever been an employee of USES, neither I nor any member of my family has ever been a board member of USES. None of us has any affiliation with the proposed developer.

However, my sister and my cousins and I were students at the USES Children's Art Centre, on Rutland Street, long before this new building at Mass. and Columbus Avenues was even built. When I can, I donate to the USES. One hundred and one years ago when my grandparents, immigrants from Syria, first came to live in this neighborhood, the settlement houses helped new residents become Bostonians and Americans.

My father Fred Shibley published the weekly *Mid-Town Journal* from our Rutland Street building until 1966. In the last few years of its publication, Dad expounded against Urban Renewal and displacement of long-time residents and businesses. The Boston Redevelopment Authority was not spared in these passionate editorials. The BPDA now has the opportunity today to preserve a long time institution, USES.

The future not just of USES, but all of our non-profit organizations is in peril. Several have relocated or disappeared in the last few years. Please support this well-thought out plan to ensure the organization's survival and approve the proposal.

I attended the IAG meeting of August 19 and spoke at the public meeting of September 11. Although my friends and neighbors may have a difference of opinion about the best future for this Tubman House, I was perplexed by their claims that USES had failed to inform the community of its plans. As an example of the extent to which this has been well-known, I enclose a copy of page 1 of the January 3 *Bay State Banner*, a newspaper with a circulation of 120,000 on paper and 300,000 online. The top story is news of the proposed sale.

As I look out my kitchen window at the site where the proposed new Tubman House – not the first of the second or even the third but the fourth Tubman house – would be built. I realize that I am among the abutters who would be most impacted by the proposed new building, which would be funded by the sale of the 1975 Tubman House. I support it because I believe in the mission of USES which continues to help people just as my family and I were helped all those many years ago.

Very Truly Yours,

Richard P.F. Shibley

Cc:

City Councillor Michelle Wu

City Councillor Annissa Essaibi-George

City Councillor Michael Flaherty

City Councillor Kim Janey

City Councillor Ed Flynn

State Rep. Jon Santiago

Brian Golden, BPDA Executive Director

Faisa Sharif, Community Liaison

Enclosure

Richard Shibley



BayStateBanner-2019-01-03-USES.jpg  
8879K





Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## Harriet Tubman House

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**Filomina C Steady**

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Thu, Sep 5, 2019 at 10:25 PM

Dear Michael

I speak for the many women of the African Diaspora who have benefited for the work being done by the Resilient Sisterhood Project, one of the tenants of the Harriet Tubman House. Please do not sell this important historic building that carries the vision and dreams of the icon, Harriet Tubman. The Harriet Tubman House should be preserved for prosperity and for generations to come by keeping the current tenants and allowing them to do the wonderful humanitarian work for the people of Boston.

Signed

Professor Emerita

Filomina C. Steady

Africana Studies

Wellesley College

--

Filomina C. Steady, D.Phil. (Oxon.)

Professor Emerita

Africana Studies

(Women and Feminist Studies/Environmental Justice)

Wellesley College, [106 Central Street](#),[Wellesley, MA. 02481](#)

Tel.

E-mail:

**Selected Publications**Book - **Krio Women of Sierra Leone: Embracing a Culture of Many Parts**, Second Edition, 2016.<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1607974932>Book - **Women and Leadership in West Africa: Mothering the Nation and Humanizing the State**, 2012.[http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/women-and-leadership-in-west-africa-filomina-chioma-steady/?](http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/women-and-leadership-in-west-africa-filomina-chioma-steady/?k=9780230338128)[k=9780230338128](http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/women-and-leadership-in-west-africa-filomina-chioma-steady/?k=9780230338128)Book - **The Black Woman Cross-Culturally**. Third Edition, Editor, 2011Book - **Women and Collective Action in Africa: Development, Democratization and****Empowerment**, New York, Palgrave/Macmillan, 2006. <https://www.amazon.com/Women-Collective-Action-Africa-Democratization/dp/1403970831>



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## In support of the sale of 566 Columbus

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**Ari Sussman**

Fri, Sep 13, 2019 at 1:20 PM

To: Michael.A.Sinatra@boston.gov

Mr Sinatra -

I am strongly in support of the sale of [566 Columbus Ave.](#)

Both my sons started attending USES when they were 3 months old until Kindergarten. My whole family has benefitted from the diversity and inclusion that the USES early childhood education offers. I believe that both my boys will grow up to be stronger advocates for minority communities and better human beings through the acceptance of others that USES has taught in their words and by example. We live on Rutland St a few doors down from the school and love the vibrancy that the children bring to our street.

We, and the rest of our community, would be devastated if USES was not able to continue to fulfill its mission. As a result I am strongly in support of the sale of [566 Columbus Ave](#) as a lifeline to ensure its vibrancy into the next century.

Ari Sussman  
(67 Rutland St)

September 15, 2019

Mr. Brian Golden, Director  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02201

19 SEP 26 PM 3:28:54  
BRG

Dear Director Golden:

We the undersigned want to express our support for United South End Settlements (USES) to move forward with plans to sell its building at 566 Columbus Avenue to New Boston Ventures (NBV).

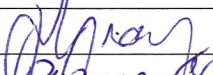
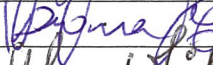
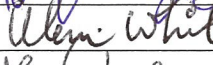
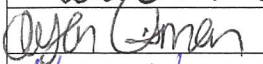
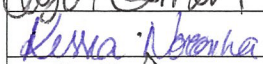
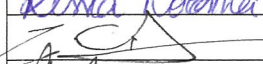


**It is important to us that our support is recorded as part of this ongoing process.**

We believe that this sale and relocation of the Harriet Tubman House are in the best interests of the community for the following reasons:

- USES services more than 350 families and is committed to helping break the cycle of poverty
- Building maintenance costs and repairs will soon put USES out of business
- Sale proceeds will provide for an endowment to keep USES financially stable for generations and allow program growth and expansion at its Rutland Street location, a few blocks away
- NBV is providing USES with free cultural space to continue to have a presence on Columbus Avenue
- NBV is providing more affordable housing units than the City of Boston requires; 11 units will be artist studios/residences
- If the sale is blocked, USES will be forced to close its doors

Signed:

| Signature | Address | Name | Email Address |
|-----------|---------|------|---------------|
|-----------|---------|------|---------------|

|                                                                                     |                    |                |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--|
|  | 67 Rutland St      | Jessica Gray   |  |
|  | 906A Saratoga St   | Deanna         |  |
|  | 32 Rutland St #212 | ALAN WHITE     |  |
|  | 82 New Whitney St  | Ayman Osama    |  |
|  | 535 Albany St      | KESSIA NORONHA |  |
|  | 64 Plympton St     | Tyler Orlansky |  |
|  | 37 Ward Hill       | CORY GANDY     |  |
|  | 69 Plympton St     | ANNA CAPUA     |  |

DATE:

Mr. Brian Golden, Director Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02201

Dear Director Golden:

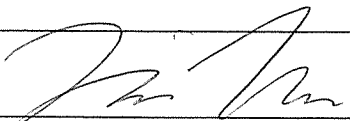
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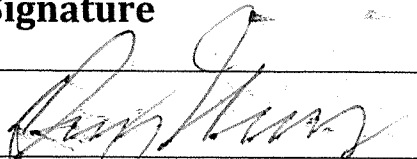
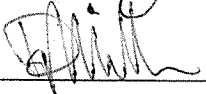
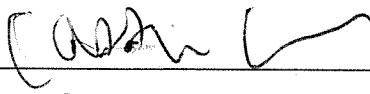

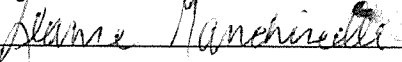
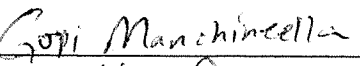
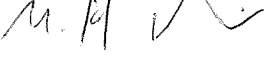


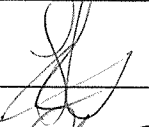


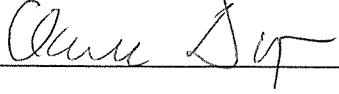
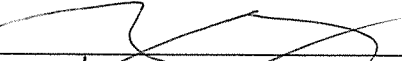

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- NBV is providing more affordable housing units than the City of Boston requires; 11 units will be artist studios/residences
- If the sale is blocked, USES will be forced to close its doors

Signed:

| Signature                                                                          | Address        | Name          | Email address |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | 16 Druryham St | Peter Forkner | ...@... .com  |

| Signature                                                                           | Address               | Name                | Email address |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
|    | 112 SAINT BOTOLPH ST. | BOBSEY MILLER       |               |
|     | 112 St. Botolph St #1 | Doug Miller         |               |
|    | 110 St. Botolph St #2 | CASSIA KAPERSON     |               |
|     | 133 W. Concord St     | JANE DEPP           |               |
|     | 2 Durham St           | Leanne Manchionella |               |
|     | 2 Durham St           | Gopi Manchioneella  |               |
|     | 9 Greenwich Plk #5    | Mohammad Hamidian   |               |
|     | 9 Greenwich Plk #5    | Clare Bernard       |               |
|    | 110 Chandler Street   | D. Kuonenberg       |               |
|   | 106 Chandler St       | Merel Horewinkel    |               |
|  | 17 Durham St #2       | Deborah Heim        |               |
|  | 17 Durham St #2       | THOMAS HEIM         |               |
|   | 124 ST BOTOLPH ST     | CLAIRE JARGAN       |               |
|   | 36 Church Park        | Lou Reed            |               |
|   | 556 LOWER BUS         | MICHAEL PERRY       |               |

| Signature                 | Address                                | Name                      | Email address |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Jane Bell                 | 11 Wellington St                       | Jane Bell                 |               |
| Charles Turry             | 30 Clarendon                           | Charles Turry             |               |
| <del>Jack Machulski</del> | <del>11 Durham Street</del>            | <del>Jack Machulski</del> |               |
| Ed Sullivan               | 12 Cumberland St                       | Ed Sullivan               |               |
| Melissa Way               | 435 SHAWMUT AVE                        | Melissa Way               | Melissa Way   |
| Rebecca Forster           | 16 Durham St Boston                    | Rebecca Forster           |               |
| Rait                      | 287 Munroe. Brookline                  | Rait Hader                |               |
| MM                        | 535 Albany St. 02118                   | PATRICK PLANCH            |               |
| S. Vaula                  | 64 Plympton St 02118                   | SANTIAGO VAULA            |               |
| MO                        | 460 HARRISON <sup>#212</sup> AVE 02118 | MICHAEL FORMAN            |               |
|                           |                                        |                           |               |
|                           |                                        |                           |               |
|                           |                                        |                           |               |
|                           |                                        |                           |               |
|                           |                                        |                           |               |



Michael Sinatra &lt;michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov&gt;

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## The Harriet Tubman House

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**David Wright**

Tue, Aug 27, 2019 at 9:30 AM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, ebony.darosa@boston.gov

Mr. Sinatra and Ms. Darosa:

I write this letter to encourage you to hold the restrictions that currently preserve the center of the South End/Lower Roxbury Community known as the Harriet Tubman House.

To the residents of these neighborhoods, and many others who've benefited from its services, the building is affectionately known as "The Harriet Tubman." She has been a force for transformation and for good in the South End for generations. Indeed, she was placed in this area—during a time of significant disinvestment in Boston due to White Flight—to help those who remained in the city better themselves, their neighborhood, and the City of Boston that they loved. Now that Boston is doing much better, outsiders have come to profit off of the work and investment made by the residents of the communities at their expense. Now that Boston is doing much better, Boston should not abandon these people.

The Harriet Tubman was entrusted to USES for the benefit of the community. USES has betrayed that trust by embarking upon a flawed process that excluded the vast majority of the community from its process. Its "community meetings" were held with a hand-picked "100 stakeholders" whom nobody seems to know. How can they be stakeholders when they do not come from or represent any of the interests in the neighborhood and/or have a vested interest in the sale? When residents and true stakeholders attempted to attend these all-but secretive meetings, USES called the police. The process by which USES released its RFR for the sale of this historic landmark was so flawed that NO minority organizations were able to apply. Indeed, even ABCD, another community leader, was unable to provide anything but a one-page submission because the RFR process was riddled with misinformation and changing dates.

Everyone can respect that USES can no longer maintain The Harriet Tubman. If that is true, The Harriet Tubman should be given to another nonprofit that can maintain it for its intended purpose. Even if USES has to sell The Harriet Tubman and such sale is allowed, it should be pursuant to a fair and equitable process, clear in its time frames and dates, so that everyone—not just a privileged few—can adequately prepare and bid.

The tremendous ire that currently exists against this sale, generally, and against USES, particularly, comes from the sense of betrayal at the sale of this landmark to be turned into luxury condominiums. That the developer has granted a few “low income” units (which is still more than most residents of the South End can afford) and artists’ units is small recompense for the loss of senior’s programs, job preparation programs, computer classes, daycare services, arts and culture training and exhibitions and other nonprofit services it will displace.

Boston is a city of equity. If Massachusetts is the City Upon a Hill, as described by both Governor John Winthrop and John F. Kennedy, then Boston is its Beacon Light. It is the height of inequity that a center –created to counter the discriminatory effects of Urban Renewal and to empower the residents that chose not to abandon Boston in her time of need —should be transformed into luxury condominiums that displace those residents. It is the height of inequity that, due to a severely flawed process, residents were unaware and Black organizations were unable to submit a proposal for its future. It is the height of injustice that, a building named after a woman who escaped the horrors of slavery, rescued many more, and served her nation during the Civil War, should be sold to the highest bidder.

Preventing this inequity and injustice is exactly why there restrictions were put in place. Now, more than ever, they need to be honored.

Thank you.

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Rev. David Wright  
Executive Director  
Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston, Inc.  
2010 Columbus Avenue  
Roxbury, MA 02119



| Date      | First Name | Last Name | Organization | Opinion | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9/27/2019 | Adrienne   | Horne     |              | Oppose  | I oppose this proposal to redevelop 566 Columbus Avenue because it would be harmful to the local residents of Lower Roxbury area of the South End. It is a space necessary for the non-profits who rely on it to house their services and community space. It is a space residents rely on to access services from those non-profits that benefit the community. This space should be preserved as a community center rather than opening it up for commercial and residential. This space was dedicated to community use in 1965, and since then it has become a place local residents can access and rely on. Taking this space away, or even moving it, would hurt nonprofits as well as hurting local residents. This space should only be developed in the way it was originally intended as a community space to benefit residents in the Lower Roxbury area of the South End.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9/27/2019 | Sarah      | Clapp     |              | Oppose  | I am a proud supporter of United South End Settlements. I support their mission and values. I find great importance in their organization, especially since its an organization both OF the community and FOR the community. Over the past year, USES served 375 children across 256 households. Their impact is far-reaching, BUT their work rings hollow if they are not respecting and engaging the community in its process. Moving forward with this sale without allowing for civil, small group communication between members of the community and members of USES would create a deep division between the businesses, services, and nonprofits in the South End, creating disunity that would be DEVASTATING to the neighborhood. Boston.gov states that "Boston is distinguished by its proud, vibrant neighborhoods." The city of Boston thrives because of its communities, its cultures, and the connections between them all. Allowing a project like this to move forward without taking steps to rectify the situation and the disregard shown throughout this process would not just be detrimental to the relationship between the city and its communities—it would also be an irreparable DISGRACE. It would be unethical and wrong for the city of Boston to move forward and accept this proposal without ensuring that all parties involved are given a controlled setting in which they can have honest, constructive conversations in order to reach a compromise. This is NOT the time to move forward, as if nobody has spoken up. Now is the time to COMPROMISE. We need to find a way that USES, Boston Ventures, and this community can work together to make this new building work for everyone. At the community meeting, members of the USES board apologized for not including community members from the beginning. But a true apology would be one that admitted to causing harm, expressed sincere apologies for a mistake, and acknowledged that USES will do whatever they can right now and in the future to make sure that this never happens again. The apology the community received was not sincere; it was just words, not action. The United South End Settlements, Boston Ventures, and the City of Boston need to take action and let these people be heard by validating their anger about this situation. You need to do what you can to reach a compromise that acknowledges the community AND saves the organization that they too want to save. Nobody wants the United South End Settlements to close. In fact, many individuals and families in the "opposition" were USES kids growing up, or have children currently enrolled in the programs! They find value in these programs, just as we do. By dissenting, these individuals are not attacking. They are raising valid, highly justified concerns. The USES mission states that they aim to harness the power of their community to create results. Right now, they are not living up to that mission, and the city of Boston and Boston Ventures are willing accomplices. You owe it to this community and to all Bostonians to DO. BETTER. |

|           |                   |          |        |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|--------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9/27/2019 | Christopher       | Flynn    |        | Support | As a direct abutter of where the NEW Harriet Tubman House is planned to be built on Rutland Street, it would seem logical that I would be writing to try to sink the sale of the existing Harriet Tubman House in order to preserve my current views and avoid the hassles of construction over the next few years. But I am not doing that. I am writing in SUPPORT of the sale and redevelopment of the Harriet Tubman House at 566 Columbus Ave. and the continued survival of an important community asset, the United South End Settlements (USES). I love living in the South End for many reasons, the diversity of the community being one of the main ones. The services delivered by USES are critical to making this a livable community for members of all socioeconomic experiences. Approving this ensures that the South End remains a dynamic and livable community for everyone.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 9/25/2019 | Desmond           | Murphy   |        | Support | Dear BPDA, I am writing to provide support to USES' efforts to continue their organization's mission by selling their property and using the funds to consolidate their programs into a single building. Given the recent collapse of Mount Ida College, I am happy to support any non-profit that considers how their organization will function for 20, 30, and 40 years. USES is doing what is necessary to continue their mission. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 9/25/2019 | Priscilla         | Chiu     | Parent | Support | A personalized letter of support will be arriving in Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa's email shortly.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9/25/2019 | Kevin and Rebecca | Koslosky |        | Support | I am in full support of the development proposed by New Boston Ventures. Not only does it offer unique and thoughtful community benefits and more affordable housing than the city's minimum required, it also offers a much-needed path to sustainability for United South End Settlements. I hope the city will approve this development so that we do not lose the services, jobs and community building that USES has offered for over 125 years. Thank you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 9/20/2019 | Alexandra         | Zaltman  |        | Support | The sale of the Harriet Tubman House by USES is crucial to ensuring the continuation of USES, a community organization that provides valuable services to the south end's low income residents.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9/20/2019 | Lorraine          | Steele   |        | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. We have been helping to support USES financially for a number of years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I ask you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Regards, Lorraine Steele |

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| 9/19/2019 | Ben   | Siegel  | USES            | Support | To whom it may concern, I have been a resident of the South End for the past 47 years and have just retired as a general pediatrician at a local urban hospital. I have taken care of many children, who, with their parents have used USES over many years, including a number of children who went to Camp Hale. My patients and their family members have told me about the nurturing and support they have received from USES. I have also consulted with the children's arts therapy program at USES (Pro Bono) for a number of years. What is at stake is the existence of USES. The organization has engaged in a planning process over a number of years with as many neighbors and residents as possible in the greater community, and has developed a reasonable plan to "stay alive" and serve those in need. Their plan to focus on children and parents is a crucial one. They need to be able to sell the building to maintain services and consolidate to their other buildings. Failure to support this reasonable and well thought out plan of transition will result in the ending for USES and the loss of support to many children and families who could benefit from their services. It is a wonderful organization that needs this breathe of life for it to continue. They do needed work in the community and need all the support from everyone including city agencies. Benjamin Siegel, MD 148 West Canton St. Boston, MA 02118 |
| 9/18/2019 | Joyce | Lee     |                 | Support | I am writing to show my support of the sale of 566 Columbus. USES is an important part of our family. I have 3 three children who were part of the Early Childhood Education Program. Through this program, they were blessed with caring teachers who supported their development and who have remained an important part of their lives. They also made deep friendships in the neighborhood. In addition to being participants in the program, I am a neighbor on Rutland Street. Inspired by the enormous impact that USES has had in the community the past 127 years, I joined the board 4.5 years ago so that I could give back. Given USES' financial health, it is critical that we sell 566 Columbus or we will be forced to close our doors. With the funds from the sale, we will be able to continue to serve over 350 families and commit to helping break the cycle of poverty. We will be able to expand our program at the Rutland Street location and provide an even greater impact. We believe that New Boston Ventures is also committed to the community. They are providing affordable housing units (more than required by the City), helping existing tenants with relocation and giving USES free cultural space in the new building. We would lose all of this if the sale is blocked. I sincerely ask that you take this consideration. With gratitude, Joyce                                                                   |
| 9/18/2019 | Kevin | Fontana | eCratchit, Inc. | Support | I am a proud supporter of United South End Settlements and heartily support the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. I am pleased to know that the proceeds from the sale will enable United South End Settlements to establish a new permanent home for the organization at its campus on Rutland Street and continue to offer its wide array of vital services to the community. Over the past year, USES served 375 children in our programs across 256 households. USES is integral to improving the lives of children and their families in the South End. I believe the proposed building to be built by New Boston Ventures will become a vibrant part of the community and am pleased to offer my support for this project through the BPDA process. I understand USES's financial situation and their need to sell the building at 566 Columbus in order to survive. Selling this building will allow USES to continue serving the community for many years to come.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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| 9/18/2019 | Duane    | Lefevre |         | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally for years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Thank you. Duane |
| 9/17/2019 | Patricia | Belden  | U.S.E.S | Support | Over the past 127 years, United South End Settlements has served the South End Community. The vision of the work has remained steady, as has the connection to the community - a community that has changed more than once in over a century. For the past 40 years, the Harriet Tubman house was the physical manifestation of their vision and commitment to community. As U.S.E.S looks ahead to the next quarter century + of time, it has developed a plan that retains the vision and commitment to the community albeit housed in a different location. If we have learned anything from the original settlement house movement it is that organizations need to evolve over time in order to serve their key constituents while maintaining connections to the larger community. One concrete example of that change is the decision to serve girls at Camp Hale in addition to boys -- a move that could not be anticipated when the camp first began. Their programs have also enrolled a higher number of affluent families, who are paying market rate prices for their programs. Blocking the sale of the Harriet Tubman house will not reverse 30+ years of gentrification, but it will end the great work of a neighborhood institution that has been around far longer. I urge the BPDA to support the sale of Harriet Tubman House to New Boston Ventures in order to allow the work and legacy of U.S.E.S to continue.                                                                                     |
| 9/17/2019 | Barbara  | Knecht  | na      | Support | I came to live on Holyoke street 18 years ago and learned about the migration of the Harriet Tubman House from my street to its current location on Columbus and Mass Ave. I support USES in its courage to analyze the current environment and change as needed. In my work, I have observed, and been part of, the evolution of countless not for profit organizations who have had to make difficult decisions about programs and services as public financial support for education and family support has dwindled. Just as the administrations before it decided to merge with other settlement houses, to move from the iconic row house, to change its programming, USES's current board has made a considered and realistic decision for sustainability. I support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave to ensure that there will still be a USES in another 127 years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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| 9/17/2019 | Susan   | Pioli   |    | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale. If it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally for almost 10 years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Susan Pioli 3 Durham St. #5, Boston, MA 02115                                                                                            |
| 9/16/2019 | Melissa | Rivard  | #2 | Oppose  | I am a Registered Voter in Massachusetts and I am appalled that the Harriet Tubman House has been slated for demolition to be replaced by predominantly luxury condominiums (with a paltry 16% dedicated to affordable housing). I strongly support the preservation of the Harriet Tubman House in its present form and location, as a Memorial to a courageous and beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education and public service, in compliance with the requirements for buildings receiving public funds, and as outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. I am asking Mayor, Marty Walsh to PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING AND HOLD THE RESTRICTION!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9/16/2019 | Rebecca | Forkner |    | Support | I STRONGLY SUPPORT the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally for almost 10 years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions whatsoever. I am at your service. My very best, Rebecca D. Forkner, Ph.D. |

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| 9/16/2019 | Linda  | Seaver  |  | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 9/16/2019 | Ulrike | Sitter  |  | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally for almost 10 years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. UlrikeSitter |
| 9/16/2019 | Campe  | Goodman |  | Support | I support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. My family and I have provided financial and volunteer assistance to USES for over 10 years, and we strongly support the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. Please consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. They cannot survive without this sale. Sincerely, Campe Goodman                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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| 9/16/2019 | Anderson | Bell  |  | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally for almost 10 years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Anderson            |
| 9/16/2019 | Helen    | Towns |  | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Helen                                                      |
| 9/16/2019 | Kathrene | Bell  |  | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally for almost 10 years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Thank you, Kathrene |

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| 9/16/2019 | Cheryl   | Lu      |  | Support | strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally for almost 10 years and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Cheryl Lu |
| 9/16/2019 | Virginia | Morse   |  | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. Virginia Morse                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 9/16/2019 | Asjadoll | Howell  |  | Support | I hope that this building isn't sold due to the history it contains                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9/16/2019 | Kathleen | Enright |  | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. In addition, I support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. They are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Best, Kathleen M. Enright, Esq.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |



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| 9/16/2019 | Brenton | Mar       |    | Support | My name is Brenton Mar. I've been a resident of the South End neighborhood for over 10 years and have two kids, 5 and 8, which have spent nearly their entire lives as part of the USES community, starting as infants in early childhood education, through afterschool and summer camp. We've lived through 2 CEOs, 4 preschool directors, dozens of staff. We organized teacher appreciation days, painted hallways, donated toys and books, planned community BBQs and started a parent organization at USES. The thing I love about USES is the community. I think it's a very special place that reflects the diversity of the South End Community in a way that many of the public and private school in Boston do not. We've lived through many ups and many downs together, including when 48 Rutland was flooded and hundreds of kids were displaced and we were running a mini-day care out of our house. The community really came together and pitched and helped as many families as they come during that hard time. I love the fact my children get to be part of a community like that. After that year-long ordeal, USES came out with a newly repaired building at 48 Rutland, and huge amount of additional debt. I support the sale of 566 Columbus to save this amazing organization which continues to serve the South End community.                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9/16/2019 | jessica | scherer   |    | Support | I strongly support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. United South End Settlements (USES) cannot remain in operation without this sale; if it does not go through, USES will have to close doors and leave 50+ employees jobless, and 350 children and their families without the multi-generational services that USES provides. I further support the selection of Boston New Ventures as the preferred buyer. They have proven their commitment to the community through their plan to offer significant affordable commercial and residential spaces in the proposed space. I have also heard first-hand through individuals in the community who have worked with the potential buyers that they are community members with integrity dedicated to the growth of all members of Boston. My family has been helping to support USES financially and instrumentally and we stand alongside the tireless work they do in their devotion to raise out of poverty families in the South End and Roxbury. Their programming is impressive, both empirically supported and engaging. They are a 127-year-long staple of Boston and we will continue to do whatever we can to help them remain strong. But they simply will not survive without the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. Again, I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community. Thank you, Jessica |
| 9/16/2019 | Ronit   | Hadar     |    | Support | I strongly support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. and I beg you to heavily consider the impact that the loss of United South End Settlements from this neighborhood would have on the community                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 9/15/2019 | Silvia  | Buonamici | NA | Support | Hello there, My name is Silvia Buonamici, I have 2 kids: Valentina (8) and Luca (5). Valentina started at USES when she was 8 months old and Luca when he was only 8 weeks old. USES have been the place where they learned to walk, talk and most importantly they learn how to love all the different kids in the community. A value that I believe is very important, but at the same time is very difficult to teach and maintain at this time... At USES we met most of our friends and again we learn so much from all the different cultures and background. With this letter, I would like to support the sale of the 566 Columbus, so that USES can continue to provide all the services to the community and bringing it together under the same roof. Thank you very much Silvia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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| 9/15/2019 | Jeffrey    | Klug    |  | Support | As much as I like the building and the memories that are attached to it, I am not prepared to jeopardize the institution for the sake of the building. The mission of USES is critical to the community, my son has benefitted greatly from Camp Hale as have many kids in the south End. The new building will accrue memories just like this one and in 5 years, 10 years, 50 years, when this institution endures we will all be grateful the board made this difficult decision.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 9/15/2019 | Kafi       | Dixon   |  | Oppose  | The Harriet Tubman House is an important landmark to past, present, and future p.o.c here in Boston. There needs to be a more thoughtful purpose for the building which aligns with the history and mission of such a historic figure as H. Tubman and the enslaved ppl she free, thereby changing the trajectory of so many generational African Americans, some of who have risen to positions of power. BPDA needs to do better.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 9/15/2019 | Rabbi Jeff | Foust   |  | Oppose  | I am a concerned community member and I Support the Harriet Tubman House being preserved in its present form, as a Memorial to a Beloved Leader for Freedom and as a Neighborhood Space for Cultural Diversity, Education and Public Service, in Compliance with the Requirements for Buildings Receiving Public Funds, and as Outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. I am asking Mayor, Marty Walsh to PLEASE HOLD THE RESTRICTION!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9/14/2019 | Kathleen   | Roberts |  | Support | For me and my family, United South End Settlements is the embodiment of community. For 14 years, they have been an essential part of my children's lives. From my children's earliest years in the day care, to the afterschool program, to Camp Hale, the staff and families at U.S. E.S. have always greeted my family with open arms and love. My kids have learned, and played, and grown up with children from so many walks of life and different backgrounds--all in this loving, welcoming, supportive environment. U.S.E.S. has helped raise my children (now ages 15 and 20), and my kids are the better for it. Through U.S.E.S., they have made lifelong friends, friends they would otherwise never hold such deep relationships with. And we have connected with families we would probably never have met--just what you would hope a community organization could do. I have seen U.S.E.S rally around families at difficult times--including my own--to help us through. U.S.E.S. is a wonderful neighborhood institution that brings people together, helps them see their strengths, reach across difference, and become better members of our community, our city, our world. We have been part of U.S.E.S. on Columbus Ave, on Rutland Street, and at Camp Hale in New Hampshire; it doesn't matter where we are. U.S.E.S. does its good work anywhere. The essential thing is that U.S.E.S. not be forced to close its doors to all the children and families whose lives it changes every day--so I support the sale and advancement of this process. The loss of U.S.E.S. would be an enormous loss for this community. |
| 9/14/2019 | Kimberly   | F H     |  | Oppose  | I am a 53 yr. old woman! The Harriet Tubman has been around since I was young! It is historical in my eyes and should not be knocked down, if anything it needs a make over and that's about it. We don't need anymore apt Bldgs, condos etc. Thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9/13/2019 | Eloise     | Steed   |  | Support | I am a resident at 32 Greenwich Park and it would be very disappointing to our community if the Harriet Tubman House was closed my children and I have attended many events there which give the children something to do it's bad enough that the children have limited activities in the neighborhood so to take the Harriet Tubman House would be heart breaking so I ask of you please save the Harriet Tubman House don't let our community be left without a place we can call home thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| 9/12/2019 | Lorraine  | Payne Wheeler |                  | Oppose  | It's clear that residents who benefit from the programs offered by USES, and other current tenants, do not support the plan to demolish the building and replace it with luxury condos. Even the offer of 11 affordable units does not go far enough in exchange for replacing the history and culture lost by the demolition of the Harriet Tubman House. There was considerable discussion about lack of transparency and failure to contact community members about the proposed sale early enough in the process. Since USES is asking to break with the limitation in the deed on the sale of the property so that it can be sold to a for-profit entity, I would hope the BPDA /BRA will support community members and not remove the deed restriction so that the building will continue to be used by non-profits. The property could still be sold but USES would earn a reasonable profit on a property that was given to them if it sold to another non-profit organizations like ABCD or TDC , who have already offered to co-own the building. |
| 9/12/2019 | Marian    | Ellwood       | Not applicable   | Support | I'm a neighbor of and former volunteer at USES at 566 Columbus Avenue. I completely support the difficult decision that the director and the Board of Governors of USES have made to sell this site to support the USES organization in the future, and am not opposed to the proposed development. Please don't let this sale be derailed by impractical objections. I do, however, suggest that enough parking spaces to provide one for each residential unit be provided under the new building.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 9/12/2019 | Heidi     | Brewster      |                  | Support | I am in complete support of the sale of the sale of Harriet Tubman House. As a member of the community and a parent, I want to see that USES remains solvent and able to provide badly needed services for the entire community for the future. Thank you, Heidi Brewster                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 9/12/2019 | Cindy     | Laba          | Beacon Academy   | Support | As a leader of a Boston organization currently looking for a new home for our school, I want to express my tremendous support for the sale of the HTH by USES. Boston real estate prices are pushing out so many of us, and it is incredible that a partner non-profit is actually on the positive side of a real estate deal. I implore you to support the sale of the property so that USES can relocate its services to another site around the corner and make long term major investments in its programming. The livelihoods of more than 50 staff members and the countless people who will be ultimately served over generations to come is certainly worth a few more condos. I am sorry for the overall gentrification of our neighborhoods and hope that City leadership urgently figures out a way to balance out the tremendous corporate growth of Boston and the steady rapid decline of space for non-profits and working class people.                                                                                                     |
| 9/11/2019 | Darren    | Wetzel        |                  | Support | While I understand the concerns of protesters that a historic community center is being replaced by condos, I believe that should not be the focus of the debate. USES is at risk. We have had a child at Camp Hale for 6 years, and that fine program has changed him into a better person. We will support USES and Camp Hale into the future, long after our son has aged out, because USES is changing peoples lives and providing opportunities that wouldn't otherwise exist. The thought of losing USES and Camp Hale is unimaginable. People may not like the destruction of the Harriet Tubman house, and I would prefer it was preserved, but the choice is not whether to save or not save the building. The choice is between saving a building or saving USES. I think it's clear that USES is much more important than the building that housed it. The protesters will regret their decision to oppose if their success is an empty, decaying building and USES is gone.                                                                     |
| 9/11/2019 | catharine | wetzel        | South end family | Support | I want to support USES and hope this sale can allow the foundation to continue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| 9/11/2019 | Etta   | Rosen      |             | Support | I believe New Boston Ventures has offered the community a thoughtful and responsible plan for development all within regular zoning dimensional requirements. I strongly support their proposal. Some in the neighborhood are conflating this proposal with the past, present and future of USES. Although NBV has been respectful of USES, they are two entirely separate issues and concerns regarding USES or any of the other non-profits housed in the current building should not influence the decision. Thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 9/11/2019 | Anne   | Taylor     |             | Oppose  | Dear Sir or Madam: Please allow the sale of the USES building at 566 Columbus Ave. They do wonderful work for the community and if you allow it you will be too. Please let them grow. Sincerely, Anne Taylor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9/11/2019 | Edwin  | Tiffany    |             | Support | Please confirm receipt of this comment. The prior comment said site not reachable. Thanks, ed tiffany                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 9/11/2019 | Jared  | Katsiane   |             | Oppose  | This development is important to me since I was enrolled in the Head Start program at United South End Settlements (USES) in the 1960s; in 1999 I produced two fundraising videos for USES (featuring their Tubman House programs and Camp Hale); and my landlord rents space at the Tubman House from USES. Community-based non-profit organizations made offers to purchase the building from USES and keep it a 100% community space for non-profit use, but were refused. USES never explained why they chose a for-profit developer over worthy non-profit organizations. It is very unfortunate that USES couldn't strike a balance by selling the vital Tubman House for a healthy sum to an organization that will continue USES' mission to serve the community. Furthermore, the sale violates the 1974 deed with the BRA under the South End Urban Renewal Plan, since the BPDA extended the plan until 2022.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 9/11/2019 | kelsey | Montgomery | USES Parent | Support | I am a proud supporter of United South End Settlements and heartily support the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. I am pleased to know that the proceeds from the sale will enable United South End Settlements to establish a new permanent home for the organization at its campus on Rutland Street and continue to offer its wide array of vital services to the community. Over the past year, USES served 375 children in our programs across 256 households. USES is integral to improving the lives of children and their families in the South End. I believe the proposed building to be built by New Boston Ventures will become a vibrant part of the community and am pleased to offer my support for this project through the BPDA process.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 9/11/2019 | Marcia | Folsom     | neighbor    | Support | I support this plan because it will enable the survival of a vital South End community non-profit, the United South End Settlements. As a long-time resident of Rutland Street, I am very aware of the importance of USES to children and families. I witness every day the families walking down Rutland Street with children bound for school at 48 Rutland Street. I see every summer the excitement of young people getting ready to go to Camp Hale and excitedly coming back and telling about their adventures. I have volunteered at an event to help interested parents strengthen their credit reports, and in order to do that, I participated in a very well-organized training session where USES staff explained exactly how to assist people who came in for that session. I strongly believe in the mission of USES, to harness the power of our diverse community to disrupt the cycle of poverty for children and their families. I also believe in the commitment of USES to provide long-term holistic support to children, teenagers, and adults. I think it would be a tragedy for USES to close. |

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| 9/11/2019 | Marcie  | Bilodeau | USES                    | Support | I strongly support the sale of the 566 Columbus Ave building in order to support the mission and existence of the United South End Settlements. I am the Evaluation & Database Manager. I grew up in poverty and have made it my career supporting organizations in causes that contribute to the public's wellbeing, from foreclosure mitigation during the housing crisis, working with elderly with unjustly denied or reduced benefits at the Pension Action Center, and 5 years at the Poverty Action Lab at MIT. In my work at USES, I see firsthand the impact, both in the classrooms and within the data, in nationally-used evaluation tools and data analysis. There are hundreds of children and families who utilize USES's community oriented programs, and it's two-generation model to support families in poverty. It has an inclusive, diverse model that's open to all members of the community, where children and parents of all economic, racial, and varying identifications come together to learn and grow. While gentrification and anger over systemic oppression is real and not to be ignored, the redevelopment of the 566 building has been an unfortunate target of that anger. While change is hard, I support the move of the Harriet Tubman House to the new location, the ability of USES to scale it's programs to an economically sustainable size, and look forward to the offerings of the new building at 566 will provide the community, such as the proposed artists and community spaces, and the affordable units it'll include alongside market rate units, making it a diverse place to live and adding additional housing units the city needs. |
| 9/11/2019 | Jessica | Dilliner | Northeastern University | Oppose  | The last thing the community needs is more housing that is unattainable for moderate and low-income families. With so many Boston natives, low and moderate income families already having been forced out and/or displaced this project would only serve to exacerbate the issue. With each new build a promise is made to the community to put them first and when you consider the parameters they have to fall within to get back into housing, in many instances they don't qualify or the "affordable" units are anything but. We need to take care of our existing community, rather than selling it to the highest bidder and forcing them out now that the city has become a "desirable" place to be for those with means.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| 9/11/2019 | Aaron   | Dushku  |  | Support | To Whom It May Concern: I am writing in support of the United South End Settlements in their efforts to sell their property on Columbus Ave. Growing up in the South End, my father and his 2 brothers were participants of USES' Camp Hale program from the 1940's up until the 1960's. When he had kids of his own, he sent me and my brothers to Camp Hale. I worked at Camp Hale and in the Tubman House when I was in college and have since sent my 3 kids to camp over the last 15 years. Two were still participating this summer. The love that my family has for the USES program is unflinching and runs deep to the self-identity of our family. I will not write about that today but it is worth saying because it guides my thinking in these difficult times. I know that the Tubman House means a lot to many and there is a nostalgia for the special moments we had there which I too share. There is also a need for community space and affordable housing that I recognize. Consolidating what's left of the USES programs into 48 Rutland Street isn't an ideal situation but it is a decision that was not made light-heartedly. The financial standing of the organization is in jeopardy and the situation requires brave and decisive action. I have spoken at length to USES staff and board-members about it and I am convinced that this is the best way for them to proceed in the interest of preserving the institution and growing it back up to what it once was under their new leadership. It is unfortunate that things have come to this after many years of declining budgets. That being said, the new leadership at USES has demonstrated that they have a vision for a new and improved organization, new and more efficient facilities and to strengthening their core programming and evaluating where to go next in a strategic way. Please help USES maximize the value of this physical asset and move forward with their strategic planning process. They are demonstrating success in other areas of their planning and it is exciting to see the breath of new life in this organization. My only qualms about the proposal is that in this day and age, locations like this should not be building more parking spaces. Rapid transit is a block away and buses run directly past the site. Please consider this as a possible improvement to the proposal as a way to lessen the impact on the neighborhood's already congested streets. Less space for cars means more space for people. Sincerely, Aaron Dushku USES employee, 1990-1997 USES Program Participant, 1980-1984, 1998-2019 |
| 9/11/2019 | Danica  | Lockett |  | Oppose  | The Community's VOICE Matters! Social Services for Youth, Seniors and the Community Before Condos--Displacement of Nonprofits serving the COMMUNITY Should CONCERN ALL - WHO IS NEXT! Stop the Erasure of community landmark and sanctuaries!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9/11/2019 | Jeff    | Ross    |  | Support | "With the trend in washington, immigrants and poor people don't count. We are more likely to get funding to keep people out rather than to support people to attain self sufficiency. That's why it is important to pool resources so we can continue to support those who need it the most. Non-profits are the wisest who put resources into people. United south end settlements deserves to continue their work. I also know the principals at new boston ventures - they are community conscious.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9/10/2019 | Michael | Licker  |  | Support | My two children both attend USES' early childhood education program. I cannot express the impact that it has had on their lives. They are in the care of warm and nurturing teachers and are exposed to children of diverse racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds on a daily basis. As a result, they will become more well rounded kids and eventually young adults. I am not aware of other programs in the South End that can provide this time of environment for children to learn and grow. I understand and appreciate the strong feelings about the redevelopment of the Tubman House. However, the reality is that USES cannot survive and continue to provide this wonderful programming to hundreds of children without the sale. In an ideal world, USES would be able to function without the sale, but that is unfortunately not the reality that we live in. It would be a tremendous loss for our community to lose an organization that supports children and families of all backgrounds, but that is the reality that we face if this sale does not proceed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

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| 9/10/2019 | Beth  | Schmieta |                    | Support | I fully support the decision by United South End Settlements to sell their building at 566 Columbus Avenue so they may use the proceeds to continue the good work that they have been doing for 125 years, to continue their "founding vision of an inclusive community where neighbors from all walks of life work together so that all can thrive." I understand that letting go of the Harriet Tubman House has been a difficult decision, and one that does not please everyone, but I trust the leadership at USES to make sound decisions for the long-term financial and emotional stability of the organization. I have lived in the South End for over twenty years and have long supported USES. All my children have participated in USES programs: one child attended the early education program, two children attended the Children's Art Center (where also I taught kids' ceramics classes), and our young boy is a current Camp Hale-er. If the sale of the building is blocked, and the result of that is the closing of United South End Settlements, it would be a devastating loss to the neighborhood. Please give your approval to the sale and development of 566 Columbus Avenue so that USES may preserve their legacy of service.                                                                                                                                     |
| 9/10/2019 | James | Hood     | citizen            | Support | I right first in support of U.S.E.S. and their plan for the financial stabilization of their social service agency. I have lived in the South End for 36 years. Many neighbors have benefitted from the programming of U.S.E.S. from training classes and kids camp, after school programs, their infant, toddler, and preschool programs. These programs have made the difference in the lives of many neighbors and friends. I know there is strong, or at least, LOUD opposition to the sale of the current Harriet Tubman House. Having been a board member of several nonprofits I know that occasionally an organization faces significant financial and organizational challenges. Having read their plans I think they know exactly what they must do to save their program, keep the doors open and programs running. Further, their plan allows for a consolidation of their campus, and the emergence of a new Harriet Tubman House. I understand the emotional connection we might feel to a building, and a beloved name like Harriet Tubman. Change is not easy, but without this change, U.S.E.S. faces the serious prospect of shuttering. There is no plan B that can finance the cost of significant reconstruction of the current Harriet Tubman House while financing program operations. I urge you to approve the sale and redevelopment of the Harriet Tubman House site. |
| 9/10/2019 | Ethel | Bullitt  | former USES parent | Support | We have lived in the South End since 2002. Our children attended the Early Childhood Education programs at USES, starting in 2008 when our daughter was just 3 months old. They continued there through preschool, and attended the after-school program at Club 48. Before children, I attended adult education dance classes at the Harriet Tubman House. The Tubman House has been a place of many happy memories for our family, including holiday parties, Boston Children's Chorus rehearsals, spontaneous art projects, and others. Despite these happy memories, we support the redevelopment of the Tubman House to support the ongoing mission of USES. The mission is more important than the building. (That being said, the current Tubman building is loud, cold, drafty, poorly accessible, and uninviting). I, my husband, and my children strongly support the redevelopment of 566 Columbus Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| 9/10/2019 | Ekua     | Holmes |                                                | Neutral | I am a native Bostonian and lived in the South End (Worcester Street) for over 17 years. It was a affordable neighborhood in my college and young adult days. After that I rented a studio at the Piano Craft Guild for 21 years where I hosted exhibitions, mentored younger artists, designed for the non profit community and created art. I watched as all of my friends and associates were priced out of their apartments and studios and were forced to move on. Emotionally I hold those times close to my heart. The Harriet Tubman House was always a strong intergenerational pulse in the South End. Meetings, weddings, art, music, performances, celebrations, activism, community. The thread of its existence runs colorfully through my life and even the life of my son who attended and became a counselor at Camp Hale. Everyone from infant to elder was welcomed and engaged there. That was then... From a solutions approach to today's dilemma, it is my understanding that there were additional proposals made to USES for the Harriet Tubman House, notably ABCD and Tenants Development Corporation. USES representatives have also stated they did not go with the highest bidder. Would it be possible to make the top three proposals public? Concerned citizens of the community should have a chance to weigh in and ask decisive questions about each presentation before the final decision is made on one single proposal. Comparing apples to apples we may find there are other creative alternatives to high end condominiums. Thank you. |
| 9/10/2019 | Jerome   | Branch | Mandela Residents Cooperative Association, Inc | Oppose  | I oppose the sale of the Harriet Tubman House. It's been a long standing community landmark for the South End of Boston for decades. This building is cultural icon of the community!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 9/10/2019 | Chris    | Dadey  | Render Coffee                                  | Support | We support USES sale of 566 Columbus ave and the subsequent development on the site. It is critical that this sale goes thru so USES can continue to serve the community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9/10/2019 | David    | Stein  | USES                                           | Support | With the sale of the Harriet Tubman House the USES gets a new lease on its long, storied role in the community and the community benefits from a more robust organization operating out of rejuvenated "campus" on Rutland St. and a well-conceived mixed-use development on Columbus Ave. To deny the permit is to issue a death sentence to USES and ensure that the next proposal for the Columbus Ave property will be less accommodating to the neighborhood. Thank you for your attention to this comment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9/10/2019 | Benjamin | Smith  |                                                | Support | I'm writing in support of the United South End Settlements (U.S.E.S.) plan to sell the building at 566 Columbus Avenue. The current plan will re-develop the lot to a larger mixed-use building yet allow for the agency to maintain a long-term presence in the South End. U.S.E.S. has been an integral part of my son's upbringing and; to others, provides an outstanding level-of-service to the community. If this plan were to not be accepted, U.S.E.S. may not be able to sustain a viable future going forward and this valuable long-time institution could be lost. U.S. E.S. has, for a long time, encouraged diversity and has brought together people of various socio-economic backgrounds which is the very spirit of the South End today. I understand the emotional attachment people have to the building and to the legacy of Harriet Tubman. However, my understanding is that the mural affixed to the current building and the Harriet Tubman gallery would be preserved a few blocks over at U.S.E.S.'s 48 Rutland Street facility. Please consider approving this plan. Thank you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |



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| 9/10/2019 | Benjamin    | Smith     |               | Support | I'm writing in support of the United South End Settlements (U.S.E.S.) plan to sell the building at 566 Columbus Avenue. The current plan will re-develop the lot to a larger mixed-use building yet allow for the agency to maintain a long-term presence in the South End. U.S.E.S. has been an integral part of my son's upbringing and; to others, provides an outstanding level-of-service to the community. If this plan were to not be accepted, U.S.E.S. may not be able to sustain a viable future going forward and this valuable long-time institution could be lost. U.S. E.S. has, for a long time, encouraged diversity and has brought together people of various socio-economic backgrounds which is the very spirit of the South End today. I understand the emotional attachment people have to the building and to the legacy of Harriet Tubman. However, my understanding is that the mural affixed to the current building and the Harriet Tubman gallery would be preserved a few blocks over at U.S.E.S's 48 Rutland Street facility. Please consider approving this plan. Thank you. |
| 9/10/2019 | Christopher | Lento     |               | Support | I fully support this development proposal. USES provides valuable resources to the community and this proposal is key to their future survival. Additionally the proposal is proportional to the neighborhood and will provide public benefit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 9/9/2019  | Norma       | Zack      |               | Support | USES has provided invaluable support for so many in the area; this project can assure its continued wonderful role in the community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 9/9/2019  | Patrick     | Coughlin  | Zen Insurance | Oppose  | Years ago I used to go to the the Harriet Tubman House on Columbus Ave in Boston to tutor middle school kids. I met many great people that cared about the community. I still follow a lot of the students on Facebook and I'm amazed at all of the wonderful things they are doing. Now a developer wants to level it and turn the property into condos taking away another resource for local parents and children. Find another property!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 9/9/2019  | D'Mon       | Bills     |               | Support | To the Officers and Staff of the BPDA, I am in support of the sale of the United South End Settlement property at 566 Columbus avenue. As a long time staff member, program administrator, and parent of children who are USES participants, I am invested in these programs and the organizations longevity. In the illustrious history of the organization, there have been a myriad of locations in various parts of the South End, and New Hampshire, selling the site is not at all unprecedented, nor is a consolidation of services. This organization has been the lifeline for many families in need for over a century, providing lodging, newly arriving citizen services, advocacy, workforce development, senior services, and the first technology center in the South End. Now in the agencies time of need it is our duty to assist them in their vision for the future. Thank you D'Mon Bills Listening to the community voice is an honored tradition in the commonwealth, and I hope the BPDA receives this support of USES with open mind and heart.                                    |
| 9/9/2019  | Jeffrey     | Hamilton  |               | Support | I live in the neighborhood and have children in the programming at USES. I am very supportive of the organization's decision to sell the building and hope that this sale will go through to enable USES to continue to serve a diverse set of children and families in the South End and adjacent neighborhoods. I think the proposal that New Boston Ventures has put forward is pragmatic and thoughtful. I look forward to seeing them execute their vision for the site and activating the corner of Columbus and Mass Ave.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 9/9/2019  | Peter       | Johannsen |               | Support | My son attends United South End Settlements' Camp Hale, and it has been a life-changing experience for him. My family has been long-time supporters of USES, and the outstanding work they do to help the community. I fully support the sale of 566 Columbus Ave. by USES and the sensitive development proposed by the developers, who have a great reputation in the city. Change is hard, and I know that USES struggled mightily to find a way to survive without selling 566. But the organization won't survive if it can't sell the building. Change is going to come one way or another at 566, no matter how much we wish it wouldn't. The proposed development and the developers are the best possible path forward for the site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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| 9/9/2019 | victoria  | west        | - None - | Support | I was a South End resident in the 1980s and currently work with USES at their NH camp. The support they provide Boston youth is miraculous, and USES is our top charitable beneficiary. Their campers develop poise, confidence, communication skills and enthusiasm. They talk about a sense of empowerment, camaraderie and family through USES. The support they receive in NH continues year-round in Boston and gives them a unique skill set for life. Since 1892, USES has met the needs of Boston residents. The current plan is necessary to continue this crucial work and should be approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 9/9/2019 | Catherine | Nwachukwu   |          | Oppose  | I DO NOT support the pending sale of the Harriet Tubman house. This will only further contribute to the erasure and gentrification of the diverse community in the South End. We don't need another apartment complex with a handful of affordable units - we need to preserve our community spaces and the rich history that the South End has to offer. It's about what the Harriet Tubman house represents, and what demolishing that building will mean to those who fought to create and preserve that space over forty years ago.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9/9/2019 | Gary      | Walling     |          | Support | My family has been associated with USES and its programs for many years. My children both participated in USES programming when they were younger and they both work at Camp Hale in the summer. I cannot speak more highly of what USES does as an organization. The services that USES provides to the people of the South End, Lower Roxbury, and surrounding neighborhoods is vital and important. The current building at 566 Columbus has outlived its useful life. It will continue to be a financial drain on USES, drawing funds that could otherwise be spent on programs for the community. The sale of this property will help secure the financial future of USES. While the loss of the old Harriett Tubman House will be sad, the proposed project for 566 Columbus will provide much needed affordable homeownership units and artist live work spaces. Boston is in desperate need to add more affordable homeownership opportunities--it is a social justice issue and way to address historic inequities with communities of color. This project represents a win-win for the neighborhood: affordable homeownership opportunities and securing the financial future of beloved South End non-profit. |
| 9/8/2019 | Jean      | Gibran      |          | Support | Dear Friends from USES & Boston Planning & Development Agency, During the mid 60s my artist husband Kahlil George Gibran (born, bred, schooled in South Cove & a Camp Hale alumni) moved from Bay Village to the South End. My young daughter began to attend children's sessions at the Harriet Tubman House on Holyoke Street. From there, she enjoyed the Children's Art Centre located on that magical block where 36 & 48 Rutland thrived for decades. I became a teacher at the Hurley School, and Social Service folk from 48 worked with me and children in need. Throughout its history, wherever it has practiced, USES has cared for its neighbors, At 85, after 55 years living in the South End, I've recently moved. It is my honest belief that USES at 48 Rutland will stay on the path it has followed during its long, proud history. Onward in Peace & Justice! Jean Gibran                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9/8/2019 | Elizabeth | Hall        |          | Support | I enthusiastically support the proposal for the USES building at 566 Columbus. It is a sensitive, creative and practical solution which maintains the integrity of the organization and provides valuable services to the neighborhood. Our city can grow with this kind of thoughtful innovation. Elizabeth Hall                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 9/8/2019 | Alyse     | Ruiz-Selsky |          | Oppose  | I DO NOT support the pending sale of the Harriet Tubman House.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| 9/8/2019 | Thomas         | Reid    | Haley House | Oppose  | I am a registered voter and resident of the South End living and working at the Haley House soup kitchen on Dartmouth St., and I do not support the pending sale of the Harriet Tubman House. The idea that the proposed development will serve as a "vibrant" and "community-oriented" space is patently misleading. We must ask ourselves who it is we are talking about when we speak of 'community.' Does community include low-income folks, folks of color, youth, elders? If so, why were these groups and the organizations that serve and represent them not meaningfully included in the decision making process? Why are they kept out of the process even now? It seems to me that for the better part of the last half-century, efforts to make the South End a more "modern," "improved," and "vibrant" place have succeeded in so thoroughly gentrifying the neighborhood as to make it unrecognizable to many who once called it home. We do not want tokenizing gestures towards community at the expense of racial and socioeconomic equity. We will not accept the ongoing whitewashing of the South End neighborhood and its history.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 9/6/2019 | Catrina cooley | Cooley  |             | Support | I am opposed in sellingattended the Holyoke St address. It was a unique after school program. A program whom paid and volunteers who cared and knew each child.If parents did not have money to send the children doors were never close on a child. Folks in two family generations went there . It's a darn shame that who have created dissonance around our heritage. Like I said Go buy the prudential people of color help create that building .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9/6/2019 | Ann            | Sweeney | Citizen     | Oppose  | It's unfathomable that Harriet Tubman's house is slated to be demolished and replaced by luxury condos. Please stop this initiative and preserve the house as an historic landmark. A legacy Ms. Tubman more than deserves.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 9/6/2019 | Rachel         | Rimm    | Haley House | Oppose  | I am a Registered Voter and Concerned Community Member and I Support the Harriet Tubman House being preserved in its present form, as a Memorial to a Beloved Leader for Freedom and as a Neighborhood Space for Cultural Diversity, Education and Public Service, in Compliance with the Requirements for Buildings Receiving Public Funds, and as Outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. I am asking Mayor, Marty Walsh to PLEASE HOLD THE RESTRICTION! Historic and culturally important places like this are being wiped off the map in favor of luxury condos left and right because money has a louder voice than those who are most impacted. What gives meaning to a community is its cultural, its history, and its people. When people are displaced or ignored and pushed aside, community crumbles. Boston does not need more luxury condos. Boston does need community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 9/5/2019 | Settenah       | Savoy   |             | Support | My son started at USES when he was 3, graduated when he was 5 and attends Club48 during the summer. My daughter started at 3 months and still attends USES. My mother used to tutor students at the Harriet Tubman House back in the 90's. It would be extremely detrimental to a number of families and the South End community if the organization had to close because certain members of the community are opposed to them selling the building. The Harriet Tubman House means a lot to different people and people have made memories there, but at the end of the day it is just a building. It's not the original location of the Harriet Tubman House. USES is not selling the building to hurt black and brown families, they are selling it to survive. The work that USES does has, and will continue to have positive impacts on the community by allowing them to continue providing services to a diverse group of families. USES isn't just a daycare for us, it's a family. We all know each other and help each other, regardless of our socioeconomic status. Our children get a diverse experience that helps to prepare them for the future. Parents get support in regard to employment, parenting issues, etc. They are not benefiting from the sale of the building and it is not an easy decision to make, but it is something that needs to be done if USES will be able to stay open. While I can't be at the meeting to show my support for the plans for 566 Columbus Ave, I hope that by commenting USES will be allowed to continue their work. Thank you |

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| 9/5/2019  | Zack    | DeClerck  |                              | Support | Great to see more housing being added to this important corner in a central Boston neighborhood. Being so close to the Orange Line, the 1 bus, and the SWCP, I wonder why there is so much parking? I would advocate for fewer parking spaces, more units and in particular more Income-restricted units for middle income residents. The wealth stratification of the South End needs to be addressed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 9/5/2019  | Vivian  | Suhanosky |                              | Oppose  | There are ALTERNATIVES! Why is the Board of Directors for United South End Settlements REFUSING to hold Real Community Meetings -- To Get Ideas and Input for Alternatives! The Community, Nonprofits of Color, Nonprofits serving the low-income residents, Developers of Color, and Churches Were Left Out of the Decision Making Process! By the WAY--We Are COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TOO!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 9/4/2019  | Carolyn | Lowell    |                              | Support | I fully support the sale and redevelopment of 566 Columbus Ave. Most importantly this sale will allow USES to continue their important work within the community, and I believe the assistance the developer is providing to the current tenants of 566 will allow those organizations to continue their important work as well. This redevelopment has a number of community benefits and will revitalize that corner of Mass Ave and Columbus.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9/4/2019  | Dolores | Ortiz     | United South End Settlements | Support | I work for USES and every single day I get to see all the children and families who benefit from our programs. I've been in the nonprofit sector for over 17 years. I would never support a decision of selling the Harriet Tubman house unless I knew for certain it would mean the continuation of her legacy at Rutland Street. For 127 years USES has been a hub of support and resources and this imperative work must continue for the next generation. New Boston Ventures presented a plan with the most community benefits and I support this project.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 9/2/2019  | Colleen | George    | United South End Settlements | Support | I am a staff member at United South End Settlements and heartily support the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. I am pleased to know that the proceeds from the sale of this parcel will enable United South End Settlements to establish a new permanent home for the organization at its campus on Rutland Street and continue to offer its wide array of vital services to the community. Over the past year, we served 375 children in our programs across 256 households. I believe the proposed building to be built by New Boston Ventures will become a vibrant part of the community and am pleased to offer my support for this project through the BPDA process. I also support the applicant's petition at the Landmarks Commission to demolish the existing structure to make way for the building to follow. |
| 8/28/2019 | Peter   | Forkner   |                              | Support | I wholeheartedly support the development at 566 Columbus Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 8/28/2019 | Patrick | Planeta   | South End Neighbor           | Support | I support the sale and development at 566 Columbus in the south end. USES is an amazing organization that will continue to grow and support the city in need. The developer, New Boston Ventures, is a terrific developer who has the right development at heart that helps all with their first floor offerings. With great support, Patrick Planeta                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| 8/28/2019 | Carol       | Streiff |  | Oppose  | I write to oppose the destruction of the Harriet Tubman House at 566 Columbus Ave. The core issue here is race – race and respect for history and memorials. Harriet Tubman was an African-American heroine, beloved and respected for her persistence, risk-taking and intelligence in rescuing run-away slaves. The Harriet Tubman House memorializes the brave woman who was a symbol of the 18th century's much-touted (but little practiced) American pursuit of equality and freedom. Boston honors many who have been prominent in our early history, men such as Peter Faneuil who built the Hall, later donated to the City, using proceeds gained in part from the slave trade. Or John Winthrop, our first Governor, who owned slaves, as did John Hancock who signed the Declaration of Independence. It was in Boston that trader John Avery sold Phyllis Wheatley. Dr. Joseph Warren of Roxbury owned at least one slave. Samuel Maverick, of Maverick Square fame, is thought to have brought the first African slave to the area in 1624. Prominent merchants and families were tied to the slave trade – Bromley, Dalton, Chandler, Boyd, French – all Boston names and all names of Boston streets. These Bostonians were all White and they were all men. It can be safely assumed that none will have their names removed from the streets, buildings, or square despite their profiteering from the sale or use of slaves. I could find no evidence of a Harriet Tubman Street or a Harriet Tubman Square. However, there is one building that is providing the same kind of public service that the real Harriet -- an African American and a woman -- would appreciate and support. This building – at 566 Columbus Ave. -- memorializes that African-American woman and it should not be destroyed. I urge the City to access the many creative, caring and fiscally-smart area resources capable of finding an adequate alternative to the destruction of the Harriet Tubman House. |
| 8/25/2019 | Christopher | Grace   |  | Support | My wife and I have lived in the South End for 24 years and raised our children here. We have participated in USES programs for much of that time and I have watched the USES decision-making process over the past year and more. It has been transparent and inclusive--much more than I could have expected--and I am therefore convinced this is the best path forward for the institution. The developer they have chosen has a track record of responsible, sensitive work in the neighborhood and appears to be working hard to continue that pattern. This a painful change, no doubt about it, but losing a neighborhood institution like USES, which I differentiate from any single building, would be unimaginably worse.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 8/24/2019 | Quanda      | Burrell |  | Oppose  | Do not cater to the low-income community or the 80% of families of color that is being served. Displacement of small non profits. No real intent for the community to be able to actually use the space. "Community like"                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| 8/23/2019 | Arnesse | Brown  | I Am Harriet! | Oppose  | Dear, Michael Sinatra and Ebony DaRosa: We implore the City of Boston to hold the restriction and keep this much needed community facility, the Harriet Tubman House at 566 Columbus Avenue as it has been outlined in the South End Urban Renewal Plan. The Harriet Tubman House must be preserved in its present form, as a Memorial to a beloved leader for freedom and as a neighborhood space for cultural diversity, education and public service, in compliance with the requirements for buildings receiving public funds. USES refused to meet with the Black and Brown community to discuss alternatives and there are alternatives to selling a building named Harriet Tubman to the highest bidder. Harriet Tubman, a City of Boston landmark at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, in an area that is steeped in African American History, the Hi Hat Jazz Club---where Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others performed; where she, the Harriet Tubman now sits. She is across the street from the old NAACP, where W. E. B. Du Bois, Sociologist, Historian, Civil Rights Activists and one of the original founders of the NAACP had an office, where many prominent African Americans met to discuss the issues that were plaguing African Americans during that time. Down the street is Wally's Café, the oldest Black-family owned jazz clubs; the Chicken Lane, owned by Val Hyman's Family. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived at 397 Massachusetts Avenue; while he was a PhD student at Boston University, 397 Mass. Ave. is a property of Tenants' Development Corporation, one of the non-profits being displaced by the pending sale. Behind the Harriet Tubman, is where A. Phillip Randolph lived and held car porter led union meetings at the Pullman Porter House on West Springfield St. in Boston's South End neighborhood. SHE IS WHERE SHE BELONGS! LOSS OF SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES WILL NOT BE REPLACED BY MORE LUXURY CONDOS                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 8/20/2019 | Joseph  | Smith  |               | Support | This is a much-needed project for the area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8/19/2019 | Allison | Picott |               | Support | 140 Shawmut Avenue #1E Boston, MA 02118 August 19, 2019 VIA EMAIL Brian P. Golden, Director Boston Planning and Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201 Dear Mr. Golden: I am pleased to write this letter in support of New Boston Ventures' redevelopment of the United South End Settlements' Tubman House property at 566 Columbus Avenue in the South End. I have been a resident of the South End since 1998; my husband, Michael Goldstein, has been a South End business owner (Empire Loan) since 1985. Michael and I currently reside at The Lucas (140 Shawmut Avenue) a building that was developed by New Boston Ventures. I have known David Goldman and Dennis Kanin, both principals at New Boston Ventures, for nearly 20 and 10 years, respectively. I am also very familiar with United South End Settlements having been hired as their development consultant by President & CEO, Maicharia Weir Lytle in 2017. This six-month consultancy centered around a feasibility study to assess USES' potential to successfully undertake a fundraising campaign in support of their Vision125 strategic plan. As part of this work, I became familiar with USES' then existing financials, including their real estate holdings, which were a key factor in assessing USES' ability to successfully undertake a campaign. As both a long-time South End resident and seasoned fundraising professional, I write to express my unwavering support of United South End Settlements and New Boston Ventures for the proposed redevelopment of the Tubman House property. USES's long-term survival and continued presence in the South End community are dependent upon the organization's ability to capitalize on the proceeds from the sale of 566 Columbus Avenue. This money will provide USES with not only critical operating support, but also the funding necessary for the revitalization of their 48 Rutland Street Campus, thus enabling them to establish a permanent home. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Allison E. Picott 617-838-0818 Cc: David Goldman and Dennis Kanin, New Boston Ventures Maicharia Weir Lytle, United South End Settlements |

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| 8/2/2019 | Eben | Kunz | Kunz Associates | Neutral | <p>Would like to see plans. Not satisfied with how the roof termination is handled. Resolve ownership of the original alley that went through from West Springfield to Mass Ave. It is or was in the public domain not a private developer's. Question the need for so much parking when the current thrust is for encouraging the use of public transportation. Is garage space compromising the ground water? Important for vehicles hesitating on either Mass Ave or Tremont st side NOT TO BLOCK BIKE LANES</p> |
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