

Susan Rogers

617 Massachusetts Ave, #1
Boston, MA, 02118

**Boston Planning & Development Agency
Attn: Michael Sinatra
1 City Hall Square
Boston MA 02201**

March 30, 2019

Re: Alexandra Hotel, 1767-1769 Washington Street, Boston

Dear Mr. Sinatra,

I write as a resident homeowner to strongly encourage and support the restoration of the once-beautiful Alexandra Hotel. I understand there is some debate over its future with some urging that it be used as a homeless shelter. I strongly hope you will allow it to become a commercial facility once more. Here are my reasons:

- Neighborhood owners pay a premium in taxes and mortgages to live in the South End where we eat, shop, work, and tend our yards. Yet a large portion of our financial contribution serves the drug addicts who vandalize and litter our property. A homeless shelter or other facility serving the less fortunate would tip the scale even further out of balance.
- This balance is currently at a tipping point. Any increase towards a dirtier, more dangerous, less attractive neighborhood would drive owners and businesses from the area and start a downhill slide that would be hard to recover from. I have lived here for 11 years and have experienced the neighborhood's decline over the past four. It is extremely distressing to open one's door to a drug addict passed out on the steps. This is a not uncommon event at present.
- A corollary of this unpleasant situation is that we discourage family and friends from visiting us in Boston. Neighborhood decline is embarrassing for our city and deprives us of tourist dollars.
- At present, the abandoned hotel is home to a wide variety of vermin. Rats travel along water pipes to abutting units such as mine. I often sleep with the sound of rats in the crawl space above my bedroom. Numerous inspections have revealed that they enter from abutting buildings, not ours. Any restoration that attracts unsanitary dwellers or conditions will work against solving this problem.
- Restoring the Alexandra to a for-profit facility will have positive downstream effects on business and quality-of-life. In contrast, adding another Pine Street Inn or similar facility will discourage owners from staying and will hurt business.

For the sake of beleaguered home- and business owners in this area, I strongly urge us to move towards a livelier, more livable neighborhood for all by tending to the much-neglected Hotel Alexandra and restoring it to something we can take pride in.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "s" of "Rogers".

Susan Rogers, PhD

COMMENTS ON THE HOTEL ALEXANDRA PROJECT

- **SELDC Review**

I had the opportunity to read a recent dissertation , George Walter Born's Home Rule: The Creation of Local Historic Districts in the New Boston 1953-1983. Some quotes from his work-

“The designation of the South End, Boston’s largest historic district, represents the high-water mark of neighborhood activists agitating for governmental regulation of historic resources in the city... [seeking] protection against the encroachment of large-scale new development.” It was a 15-year effort with a large and diverse group of citizens involved. Preservation was about architecture but also the integrity of the community, a neighborhood centered revolt against the sins of urban renewal. “The impulse to create local historic districts involves a certain amount of faith in local government to act fairly and responsibly in regulating private property.” Faith in local government not the federal authoritarian actions that were meant to revitalize but instead traumatized.

Residents need to affirm that faith with this process. Although the pivotal role of historic preservation and the South End District Landmark Commission has been minimized in the presentations ,the public meetings and in the PNF filed by the proponents., the Commission does hold the legal authority to determine what is appropriate. Let’s help them fulfill their responsibility. Thoughtful and through discussions are required. Material submitted for review so far has been inadequate; for example- multiple renderings that don’t show the full height of the project. Every aspect of this proposal deserves scrutiny.

When an application gets filed ,compatibility of scale will be the most significant criteria to consider ,the corner location at Massachusetts and Washington is a highly prominent site in Boston. Consider too that the proposed design is essentially a facadectomy; from the PNF-“ **the existing structure is no longer viable and will accordingly be replaced.** Behind the façade and on the adjacent vacant parcel, a new, approximately 150 room, twelve story **boutique** hotel will be constructed with approximately 66,000 sf.”

Related comment - according to most definitions from hospitality professionals - boutique hotels are small, less than 100 rooms, 150 “keys” doesn’t fit, take away 50 rooms and lower the height .

From the SEDLC Standards and Criteria-

NEW CONSTRUCTION A. GENERAL STATEMENT OF INTENT

...To ensure that new construction has a positive effect on the historic physical character of the Landmark District, proposals for new construction will be **reviewed for compatibility with the existing architecture in such critical factors as land coverage, bulk, material, and proportion.** Therefore, the

focus of the standards and criteria is on the compatibility of new construction with the existing character of the South End without dictating style or taste.

- **Roxbury's Role**

As noted at the most recent public meetings, the focus of the development team, beginning last summer before the PNF was filed, has been on South End neighborhood groups, not Roxbury's. The missing notifications to the Roxbury BPDA listserv, the lack of outreach to the Banner newspaper and local Roxbury neighborhood organizations is noticeably inequitable.

Prominently identified as the South End not Roxbury in the PNF

Quotes from the Introduction –

Alexandra Partners, LLC (the Proponent) proposes to redevelop an approximately 8,025 square foot site (the Project site), located on the southwestern corner of the Washington Street and Massachusetts Avenue intersection **in the South End neighborhood of Boston...The South End** has become home to some of Boston's most exciting restaurants, cafes, boutiques, and shops. To continue that tradition, the Project will include ground-floor café and restaurant space, as well as a rooftop bar.

- **MITIGATION**

Safety for pedestrians/transit users/and cyclists should be prioritized, vehicle traffic that interferes with bus service and double parking on Washington St. creating unsafe conditions will be an obstacle for the Silver Line impacting riders heading to Dudley Square.

A public benefit is locating a drop off and pick up zone for ride share and taxi service, NONE ARE IDENTIFIED. This is mitigation that should be resolved with BTM, setting aside spaces for private valet service is not an equitable solution.

submitted by Alison Pultinas/preservation advocate/Mission Hill Roxbury resident



info@chestersquareneighbors.org | <https://chestersquareneighbors.org>

March 13, 2019

Michael Sinatra, Project Manager for The Alexandra
Boston Planning & Development Agency
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Memo to BPDA Board concerning 1767-1769 WASHINGTON STREET- ALEXANDRA HOTEL

Dear Mr. Sinatra;

Thank you for the opportunity to review the board memo for the Alexandra. I note the location description is confusing. Perhaps it could be changed to read as follows: The Project Site is bounded by Shawmut Avenue to the northwest, ~~Harrison~~ Washington Street to the ~~north~~ southeast, Massachusetts Avenue to the ~~west~~ northeast and Northampton Street to the ~~east~~ southwest.

I want to express my appreciation for Alexandra Partners' commitment to

- providing the community with good jobs and training opportunities,
- encouraging workers and guests to use transit (including subsidies and other assistance), and
- supporting the City's efforts to improve all modes of access, and to make non-car options an easier and more attractive choice.

I am hopeful that a Transportation Access Plan Agreement and a Construction Management Plan will find appropriate management strategies for

- drop-off/pick-up activity (as it appears valets are expected to share with Uber, Lyft, deliveries by large vehicles and public)
- shuttle access/sharing and participation in transportation management association
- level of subsidies to encourage use of transit
- multiple sidewalk uses (pedestrians, check-ins, café seating, utilities, trees, street furniture)
- friction where buses pass by vehicles loading and unloading both passengers and luggage
- over-subscribed curb space in the neighborhood (currently a haphazard mix of meters, resident parking with a variety of schedules, and unrestricted parking)

We appreciate that The Alexandra has brought neighbors together to struggle with our growing challenges and hope the City will support continued collaboration.

Sincerely,

Carol W Blair,
President, Chester Square Neighbors
Alexandra Impact Advisory Group



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

Hotel Alexandra, neighbor in full support

1 message

Pete Abernethy

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 4:03 PM

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

Dear Mr.Sinatra,

My name is Pete Abernethy, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my **STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT** for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

My wife and I have been South End residents for almost 8 years. During this time, we have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. We are very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. Being in such close proximity to the Hotel Alexandra, we see both the downside and the enormous potential it has on a daily basis.

An approval of the Hotel Alexandra would be a significant step forward for our part of the neighborhood, and one that we believe would be the start of a domino effect. Two new local restaurants, Mida and Bar Lyon (the latter being caddy-corner to the parcel in question), both located on Massachusetts Ave, have had great success and we'd love nothing more than to see the continuation of that neighborhood development in a nice boutique hotel in close proximity.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property as well. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

Put simply, we all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pete Abernethy

[519 Shawmut Ave](#)[Boston, MA](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra

1 message

Melissa L Alexander

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 2:37 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilors Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Melissa Lee, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 4 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa

--

Melissa Lee Alexander



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

Re: Support and Approve The Alexandra Hotel Project

2 messages

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:19 PM

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

Cc: Bot, Matt Hoover, Joe Alves

Jared Alves, "Meg (Ekberg) Alves"

Hi Jonathan,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 11:19 AM Jonathan Alves

wrote:

Dear Faisa, Kim and Nicholas,

My name is Jonathan Alves and I am resident of the south end and Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association.

I'm writing to ask for your immediate support in approving the proposed project by TCR development and JB ventures to restore and rebuild the Alexandra Hotel located at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Washington Street.

This project is critical to bring jobs, positive activity and viability to what is currently a dead zone corner of the south end.

I ask for your immediate support and approval of this project

Thank you,
Jonathan



Faisa Sharif

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)

Jonathan Alves

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 7:41 AM

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Cc: Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, Bot

, Matt Hoover

, Joe Alves

, Jared Alves

"Meg (Ekberg)

Alves"

Maxime Devilliers

Thank you Faisa for your response. This is a great project with a ton of neighborhood support.

Also, I saw you at the public meeting last night, but didn't get a chance to say hello. I'll see you soon at our next neighborhood meeting meeting.

3/12/2019

City of Boston Mail - Re: Support and Approve The Alexandra Hotel Project

Kind regards,
Jonathan

[Quoted text hidden]

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Jonathan Alves

Website:



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

Alexandria Hotel - Current Proposal Feedback from direct neighbor

1 message

Alissa Anderson

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 2:17 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra --

My name is Alissa Anderson, and my condo's bedroom window faces the Alexandria Hotel. I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a homeowner in the South End, with a direct line of site to the Alexandria Hotel.

You have my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists. If the current deal is killed, WE will be directly responsible for the eventual collapse of this building. The building is in extreme disrepair. I watch birds fly in and out of it every day. I watch the rain and snow enter through empty windows when the boards fall out. I do not want to watch upper floors cave into the Beauty Supply store. This is inevitable, unless a developer restores this property.

I would also like to note that it is not feasible or wise for the city to buy and restore this property. It would be extremely expensive for tax payers and the city with very low payoff -- when you could purchase a much bigger property for less money elsewhere in the city. Not only that, but the cost of restoring the facade itself is likely several million dollars, not to mention the interior, on top of the high cost of the building already.

I would also like to mention that this proposal is crucial to the development of our Washington and Mass Ave corner, as well as the safety of that corner. I've walked out of my home to a man with a needle still stuck in his arm, to people sleeping in our doorway, to all the packages in our lobby being ripped open. There's a lot of crime and drugs on our corner already. Putting a homeless shelter right next to methadone mile is going to make the drug crisis and crime that currently exists on our corner much worse.

Having a hotel on our corner will provide jobs as well as increased safety in our neighborhood. PLEASE support the current proposal for the current Alexandria Hotel.

Sincerely,

Alissa Anderson
[1723 Washington Street #511](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

Alissa J. Anderson
Phone: (
Email:



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

Alexandria Hotel

1 message

Alejandro Arango

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 1:25 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Alejandro Arango, and I am writing to you to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End condo owner for over 15 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alejandro Arango

Owner - [1723 Washington Street, #301](#)
[Boston MA 02118](#)



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

Alexandra Hotel - Fully Support

1 message

Robert Barney

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 2:28 PM

To: Kim Janey <kim.janey@boston.gov>, Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, Nicholas Armata <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, Michael Sinatra <Michael.A.Sinatra@boston.gov>

Cc: Robert Barney

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Bob Barney, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for **22** years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bob Barney

[463 Mass Ave, Unit 1, Boston MA 02118](#)



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

My support for the Alexandra Hotel project

2 messages

Neil Berenson

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 12:39 PM

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

Hi Michael – My name is Neil Berenson & I reside @604 Massachusetts Avenue, #1. I'm writing to you to share my overwhelming support for the proposed Alexandra Hotel re-development project.

For 15 years, my husband & I have looked at the dilapidated shell of the former Alexandra Hotel, which all can agree is a blight on the neighborhood. It is dark, foreboding and mostly importantly, unsafe. For years, we have experienced promise after promise that the site would be re-developed to which all have failed. I even begrudgingly supported the sale to the Church of Scientology (despite grave concerns) just to have the building improved and no longer be a dangerous eyesore for the neighborhood. As you well know, all failed and we have been left with nothing but broken promises.

The current proposal to develop the property into a hotel is the most logical concept for this space. With its proximity to the hospital and the South End/Roxbury/Back Bay neighborhoods, this location is simply an ideal spot for a hotel, where one is sorely needed. Moreover, the inclusion of a restaurant, which will enliven the current desolate corner is welcome news to a neighborhood resident that has spent too many years concerned about the potential crime that such a dark location invites.

Again, as I'm sure you're aware, this part of the South End/Roxbury has seen explosive economic growth of the past 15 years. There are now occupied homes and new restaurants & shops along Washington Street where the old elevated Orange Line once stood. This economic growth benefits all.

I have heard that in recent weeks, there have been growing demands from some in the Roxbury neighborhood that the developers of this property 'owe' this part of the city more concessions than have already been committed. And that without more concessions, this neighborhood group will drop its support for the project. While no project will ever satisfy all, I have attended local meetings and have heard the developers present their plans.

To me, this is an absolute win/win for the entire area. We should not let one neighborhood pit itself vs. another. We will all benefit when this corner of Boston is re-developed.

I am writing to ask that the Boston Planning & Development team please not let such demands negatively impact your decision to approve this project. While efforts have – and should continue – to include all voices whose lives are impacted by this project, I ask that one loud voice not overshadow the rest.

If this project does not receive approval, I fear that no other developer will try to assume the risk to build here. We have waited way too long for a major corner of the city – a corner that welcomes visitors & residents alike to the city from I-93 & the Mass Pike – to remain dark & desolate. Without development, it is very likely that the building will continue to deteriorate and will require the city to tear it down.

The Alexandra Hotel is a unique building with a distinct architectural design that you will never see again in this city. We should be doing everything possible to preserve what remains of it and turn it into a vibrant economic business that will enliven the neighborhood, create jobs, most importantly, provide additional taxes to the city's coffers.

In sum, please approve this project and finally remove this dangerous, unproductive eyesore from our neighborhood, and turn the Alexandra Hotel into the crown jewel it once was.

Thank you for your consideration,

Neil Berenson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Neil Berenson

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 6:40 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Cc: nicholas.armata@boston.gov, faisal.sharif@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Re-sending with cc:

Thx, Neil

[Quoted text hidden]



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

Hotel Alexandra Letter of Support

1 message

Jonathan Berk

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 2:45 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Jonathan Berk, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 3 years and previously lived in the Fenway Neighborhood of Boston (just off Hemenway Street) for 7 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I have seen numerous, highly adept, developers try and fail to put together a proposal on this site that works for the neighborhood dynamics and financial for a developer to undertake this project.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

Many many people want to see this development move forward. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you for your time,
Jonathan Berk
[55 Traveler Street](#)
[Boston, MA](#)

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Jonathan Berk

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

Current Alexandra Hotel Proposal

1 message

Michael Bookman

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 2:35 PM

To: faisal.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Michael Bookman, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I recently purchased my first home on 1723 Washington Street almost 2 years ago, and my bedroom window directly faces the Alexandra Hotel. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Bookman
1723 Washington St #511
Boston, MA 02118



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

Alexandra Hotel Development

1 message

Borges, Daniel

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 12:01 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Daniel Borges, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for almost 20 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daniel Borges

Owner:

[477 Massachusetts Ave., Unit 5](#)

Boston, MA 02118

Residence:

[308 Shawmut Ave., Unit 1](#)

Boston, MA 02118

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

Hotel Alexandra project

1 message

Andrew Brand

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:05 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Cc: George Stergios

, Bob Minnocci

Brian Gokey

, Desmond Murphy

Carol Blair

Hello Michael:

I live at [690 Massachusetts Ave #1](#), half a block from the Alexandra. I've lived there Mass Ave for 15 years and have lived in the South End for 22 years. I support this project with the condition that the hotel pay living wages and that a strong preference be given to local applicants for both construction and ongoing operations. I also agree with the proposal to move the Silver Line bus stop to avoid congestion. I urge the BPDA to require these items as conditions to allowing the project to proceed.

I understand that Alexandra Partners LLC is proposing to retain and restore the façade of the existing Hotel Alexandra and construct a new, approximately 150 room, thirteen-story boutique hotel with ground floor restaurant and cafe space, and a public-access rooftop level bar/restaurant. The proponents presented the project at some neighborhood meetings I attended.

The building is visible from my condo and has blighted that corner for the 22 years I've lived in the South End. As a community, we have long looked forward to the restoration of this once beautiful building. While I realize the project would deviate from the height and design of the South End Landmark District, I think the tradeoff is well worth it. It won't create a president.

I also understand that current code requires that the wall facing Roxbury on Washington Street be largely windowless and that SE Landmarks regulations prevent a mural on that wall. I don't understand the reason for the code that requires a windowless wall, but from an aesthetic perspective, it would look ugly and out of place. I urge the BPDA to grant an exception and allow windows on the wall. If windows can't be accommodated, I strongly urge the BPDA to allow a mural, ideally created by a local artist as it would look less bad than a windowless wall, and if done right could be a real win.

I am looking forward to hearing about a BPDA approval, and to finally see the hotel get rebuilt.

Andy

Andrew Brand

19-year PMC rider.

Riding is a choice. Donating is a choice. Nobody chooses cancer.

Please donate.

<http://www.pmc.org/profile/AB0079>

"We all lie in the shade of trees we did not plant."



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

In support of the Hotel Alexandra project

1 message

Anna Bremner

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:26 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra,

I am writing to you to communicate my strong support of the South End's Hotel Alexandra project, which I believe to be critical to the preservation of an important historical building and to the improved safety and livelihood of the area.

I have been a citizen of Boston for over 20 years, and a resident of the South End for 10 years. Of all the places I've lived in my life, none have had the same sense of community and shared love and responsibility for the neighborhood among neighbors as the South End has. This is why I, along with so many other of its denizens, feel so strongly about preserving all that is wonderful in this historic area, improving its safety, and fostering an environment where local business can flourish.

The plans for the Hotel Alexandra are the best and most viable solution that has come along in decades for restoring and preserving this important building that is crumbling into disrepair. With it, I believe the area around it will see improvements as well.

While some concerned neighbors that object to the hotel project have made other suggestions for use of that space, I find their proposed solutions to be ill advised and completely unrealistic. I believe rejecting the Hotel Alexandra project would result in further disintegration of this historic building, and could have dire consequences for a part of the South End that will continue to fall into disrepair and danger without the kind of injection of value and attention the hotel would bring.

The vast majority of neighbors that I have come in contact with share my opinion. We are very excited about the development of the Alexandra hotel and all that it will do to improve the neighborhood. I hope we can count on your critical support of this project.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this, and for all you do for our community.

Best regards,

Anna Bremner

[504 Columbus Avenue](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra project

1 message

Ethel Bullitt

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:24 AM

To: faisalsharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Ethel Bullitt, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my support for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 17 years. I live at [1690 Washington Street](#), and I can see the Hotel Alexandra from my front window.

I have seen too many ideas and proposals for the Hotel Alexandra arise and fail. I have seen the building fall further and further into disrepair, as neighbors wonder what will ever happen to it.

I understand that there is a backlash against the current proposal. While I understand the concern (parking, traffic, noise, building height), not moving forward will leave us with a blighted street corner for another decade. I have found myself feeling ambivalent about the proposal. It will be an inconvenience, for sure, to have major construction so close to my home. It will be harder to park (maybe it's time I gave up my car?). But the businesses that have moved in around our neighborhood have brought safety to the sidewalks, as well as long-term relationships with the business owners and their employees.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ethel Bullitt

1690 Washington St. Apt 1



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

STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

1 message

Cindy Gmail

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 5:54 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Cindy Cai on behalf of the owner Sara Wang, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cindy Cai

Unit owner representative of U502 at Minot Hall, 1721 Washington street Boston

--

Cindy Cai

Owner, Managing Broker

Cindy Cai Realty LLC 鑫地置业有限公司

The Designated REALTOR® of Greater Boston Real Estate Board

Member of National Association of Realtors

phone:

fax:

Email:



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

Letter of STRONG Support for Hotel Alexandra

1 message

Penny Alex

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:31 AM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Cc: Jorge Caicedo

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Penny Caicedo and my husband, Jorge Caicedo and I are writing to you as concerned citizens of Boston and as residents of the South End to offer our STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

We have been South End residents for the last 15 years. We are currently raising our 3 young children in the South End that attend our Boston Public School - The Hurley school - just a few blocks down from the proposed site. During this time, we have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. We are very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. We have lived for 14 years diagonally across the street from the hotel on the corner of Mass Ave and Shawmut and just recently moved to Northampton St and Shawmut - about a block away from the hotel. We are very concerned about the safety of our children in this neighborhood and are completely OPPOSED to the proposed idea of putting a homeless shelter on this site.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood. W

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Penny Caicedo

Northampton St.



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

We want the Hotel Alexandra development

1 message

Colleen Cassidy

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 10:25 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Hello Council Members,

This email is from Colleen Cassidy, my partner owns [476 Massachusetts Ave, Unit 2](#). I live there as well. We moved into the unit in January of 2018, and have tended to walk towards Columbus and everything in that direction. (We had lived in the South End during Snowmagedden year and loved the vibrancy so we are not total new comers.)

As walkers, we will periodically check out other directions, including the area at Washington and Mass Ave where Hotel Alexandra is to be located. We have marveled at that building and the beautiful framework, and often commented on what a wonderful thing when it was purchased and developed—assuming it retained its history.

We were so happy when we heard about the sale and proposed development. It adds more spice, more vibrancy and more long-term commitment to the neighborhood.

We had stopped walking that direction, and now only go back for Bar Lyon. Having another business that adds interest and flavor gives us, residents of the neighborhood, more of a reason to stay in the area. We are super happy about that and really want this project to move forward.

It is confusing why people would oppose this—the plan is not going to turn us into Boylston Street, the neighborhood feeling is retained—but with more to offer actual residents. We need places for our friends and family to stay, and we want development that retains the look and feel of super interesting buildings. Washington Street is the old 'neck' of Boston—we like to take people there and talk about the history. That property will be a cornerstone of that history story and our neighborhood. Change does happen—this is controlled change that restores history while providing for the future—please let it proceed.

We want this amazing building to survive—it will help the neighborhood to thrive. Please move this along with some alacrity—it is a this much-needed development in our neighborhood.

Can I count on your much needed voice and support?

It would be greatly appreciated,

Colleen Cassidy



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

South End Hotel Alexandria | Please Support!

1 message

Travis Chernak

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 10:03 AM

To: aisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Travis Chernak, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my **strong and unequivocal support** for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I have been a South End resident for 2 years. I bought my first condo when I moved to the neighborhood, and my wife and I are expecting this summer with plans to raise our daughter here. I have observed the state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandria and the eyesore it is on our community. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors and I are extremely excited about the current proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed improvement to our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Travis Chernak

Address:
[1313 Washington St. Apt. 503](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra Project

1 message

Sarah Christensen

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:30 AM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident since 1998 and own two properties in the area. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

I once had to dive into a stairwell in that area when a shooting started right at that corner. I would appreciate a business being in that space that could help to stabilize the area. At the same time, it would be great if the city could fix up the nearby park so the nearby residents are also able to gain something for their kids and themselves. My kids friends live right there and parking is another big concern. A relationship with parking garage would go a long way and a solid valet service.

My fellow neighbors in my street are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Christensen

[4 Rutland Sq](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

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Sent from Gmail Mobile



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

Alexandra Hotel Development

1 message

Michael Cohen

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 11:03 PM

Bcc: Michael.A.Sinatra@boston.gov

Hello,

My name is Michael Cohen, I am writing this letter to register my support of the current proposal for the Alexandra Hotel development.

I have been following the project in the news and recent community meetings.

Counselor Janey spoke passionately at the last IAG meeting and I'd like to underscore the need for the communities of Roxbury and the South End to continue to work together. Unfortunately random political boundaries can create division rather than the vision of common purpose. Hopefully we can all work together to see the common good this development provides.

I live on Shawmut Ave., 1.5 blocks from the Alexandra. We all know that the Alexandra is blighted but can be restored and developed. The transformed Alexandra will add a dramatic new entrance to the South End/Lower Roxbury, enhance public safety, create a streetscape that encourages engagement, provide jobs, both construction and permanent.

Importantly, I hope it encourages further development on Washington Street connecting the South End to Dudley Sq. The transition from historic to modern of the Alexandra design is striking. I feel it represents the mood of our dynamic city: from the stunning historic South End buildings to the quick-paced development already happening in Dudley. What that said, I'd like to caution that what we need is more "smart" development, not just development for development's sake, such as workforce housing, affordable commercial spaces and more. This development can anchor the transformation of Washington St. to everyone's benefit.

I thought many of the suggestions at the last meeting were especially helpful, such as creating internships for young people and a commitment to hire from within our communities. I don't know what the IAG will finalize regarding community benefits but I'm hopeful that many brought up at the last IAG meeting will be incorporated into the final plan.

Thank you,

Michael Cohen
[505 Shawmut Ave](#)
[Boston 02118](#)

--

Michael B Cohen



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

Alexandra This is Ed Collins. I live in the South End and fully support the current development proposal for the Alexandra. This is the first feasible proposal for the site. Opponents are putting forward false and misleading infoation fal

1 message

Ed Collins

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 9:53 AM



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

Support for Hotel Alexandra in the South End

1 message

Katie Crimmins Chernak

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 4:10 PM

To: aisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Katharine Chernak, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my **strong and unequivocal support** for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 2.5 years, since my husband and I purchased our first home here in July 2017, and have plans to stay indefinitely. We're expecting our first child and look forward to raising her and growing our family here over the years to come. I have observed the Hotel Alexandra in its current state, and while I have been enthralled by its inherent beauty since first laying eyes on it, I have also been appalled by its state of disrepair and its impact on the energy and state of the area around Washington St. and Mass Ave. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors and I are extremely excited about the current proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed improvement to our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Katharine Chernak

Address:

[1313 Washington St. Apt. 503](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

--

Katharine (Crimmins) Chernak

Chester Square Neighbors' Specific Requests re: The Alexandra

(revised 11 Feb 2019)

Transportation:

1. Instead of 3 valet parking spaces, create active drop-off / pick-up spaces, legal for all vehicles, but only while actively loading or unloading. Work with MBTA & the City to improve each of the four corners at this crossroads - moving bus stops and bike lanes and widening sidewalks to make the intersection work better for pedestrians, cyclists, buses, and general traffic. Plant & nurture trees, install benches & public art.
2. Collaborate with Boston Medical Center Transportation Management Association <http://www.bumc.bu.edu/transcomm/about-us/> to shuttle guests to/from parking, BMC and Orange Line.
3. Provide guests with complimentary Charlie ticket for first ride
4. Subsidize Charlie Cards for employees
5. Install transportation info boards in lobby and on sidewalks, showing buses, BlueBikes, Zipcars, walking map (departure time, travel times, cost, and "get started")

Design:

1. Façade restoration should comply with list of items provided by SE Historical Society
2. Architecture & materials for new structure should complement the historic Alexandra.
3. Minimize building height. Contact all within shadow to address loss of daylight.
4. Because the site lies in a heat island where temperatures can soar to dangerous levels, the design should explore possibilities for adding trees, green roof/wall.
5. "Bar" is a forbidden use here, according to Boston's zoning code. A rooftop restaurant, however, will be a welcome addition to our neighborhood.

Construction

1. Sidewalk and lane closures during construction can dramatically increase congestion and danger to pedestrians and cyclists. To prepare for constrained conditions, transportation measures should be initiated before construction.
2. Rodent control must be proactive. In addition to extermination strategies, nearby buildings should be secured against infestation in advance of construction.
3. Recruit local workers

Operations

1. Hire and support local workers. Maintain neutrality with respect to unions
2. Maintain public access to roof.
3. Manage operations to preclude noise intrusion on neighbors (deliveries, roof deck)
4. Keep sidewalk clear of litter and snow; truck snow offsite (bus lane needs to be clear)
5. No Comet place deliveries between 9 pm and 7 am



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

Support for Hotel Alexandria

1 message

Dan R

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 10:14 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Dan Riviello, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I have been a South End resident for 6 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandria. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dan Riviello

97 East Brookline St. #1
Boston, MA 02118

Sent from my iPhone



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

100% YES to Alexandra Hotel Proposal

1 message

REINA DIAZ

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 6:40 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Reina Diaz and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a long term resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for over 20 years, on Worcester Square and within view of this beautiful historic and neglected building. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

In addition, in the event this proposal falls through, I'd like to voice my STRONG DISSAPPROVAL of any social services use of this building such as homeless shelter, halfway house, drug rehab, clinic etc. We are overrun by these services in this corner of the South End, and need other neighborhoods in Boston to pick up their fair share.

We all want this hotel development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Reina Diaz

25 Worcester Square
Boston MA 02118



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

Hotel Alexandria project - offer of SUPPORT

1 message

Mark Douglass

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 9:08 PM

To: aisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Cc: James Lin

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Mark Douglass and James Lin, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I have been a South End resident for 9 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandria. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Douglass and James Lin

[225 W. Springfield Street](#)
[Boston, MA, 02118](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra support

1 message

Brenna Downing

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 7:37 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Brenna, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for many years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brenna Downing Adkins
469 Shawmut Avenue



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

The Alexandra Hotel proposal -- corner of Mass. Ave. & Washington Street -- PLEASE GO FOR IT!

2 messages

TRACIE EDWARDS

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 4:36 PM

Reply-To: TRACIE EDWARDS

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

My name is Tracie Edwards, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development. I have been a South End resident for 29 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood. We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tracie Edwards

[43 East Springfield Street, Boston.](#)

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:17 PM

To: TRACIE EDWARDS

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

Hi Tracie,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,

Faisa

[Quoted text hidden]

--

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra project

2 messages

Alicia Erickson

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 9:37 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councillor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Alicia Erickson, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 13 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alicia Erickson

[83 Worcester St., Unit 1](#)

[Boston, MA](#)

[02118](#)

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:14 PM

To: Alicia Erickson

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

Hi Alicia,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,

Faisa

[Quoted text hidden]

--

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra development

2 messages

Frank Eschmann

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 5:40 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Frank Eschmann, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 29 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frank Eschmann

298 Shawmut Ave, Unit 2
Boston, MA 02118

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:16 PM

To: Frank Eschmann

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

Hello Frank,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

[Quoted text hidden]

--

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra Proposal

1 message

Kevin Fallon

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 10:41 AM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Dear Mr. Sinatra,

I am writing you to express my total support of the development project proposed by JB Ventures and TCR Development for the restoration and development of the site known as the Hotel Alexandra at the northwest corner of Washington Street and Massachusetts Avenue.

I write this as someone who is significantly affected by development at that site, having lived at and invested in my home at 81 Worcester Street for the past thirty-five years. I was here when the elevated Orange Line still left the buildings in its shadow in neglect and watched the revival when it finally was demolished, and while the former Hotel Alexandra still sat in a state of decay. I was here the day of the awful fire in that building in the spring of 1993 when all of the northbound traffic on Massachusetts Ave was diverted onto my narrow one-way block.

I have with frustration and sadness watched developers come up with proposals and then abandon them as they fought competing interests and the city agencies. This building is unique in the South End / Lower Roxbury and should be saved. It is also a site that is expensive to redevelop in any kind of restoration proposal, and it needs to be a realistic financial plan. For that reason I am comfortable with the proposal to add floors setback from the street as these developers have proposed, quite creatively in my opinion.

There have been objections raised by others about modifications to the building, proposing alternative uses, and even having the city take over the parcel. I have read these ideas and rejected them. I live close by to this property. Every neighbor with whom I have spoken agrees with me about this.

Sincerely yours,
Kevin J Fallon
81 Worcester Street
Boston, MA 02118



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

I Support the Hotel Alexandra project

1 message

Chad Finsterwald

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 12:23 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Sinatra and Mr. Armata,

I am writing to you to communicate my strong support of the South End's Hotel Alexandra project. I believe the current proposal as the best way to preserve an important historical building and to the improved safety and livelihood of the area.

I've been resident of the South End for 10 years and love the beauty, history and community that I've found here. I feel strongly about preserving all that is wonderful in this historic area, improving its safety, and fostering an environment where local business can flourish. And to that end, I believe the plans for the Hotel Alexandra are our best opportunity to restore and preserve this important building and the surrounding area. (I confess that I've never contacted a government official regarding a proposal before, but felt compelled in this case given the stakes.)

I know a few concerned neighbors object to the hotel project have made other suggestions for use of that space, but from what I've seen those other suggestions, while well intentioned, are unrealistic and, if followed, will lead to further deterioration of the building or worse, it having to be torn down. The vast majority of neighbors that I have come in contact with share my opinion, namely, that the hotel is the best path forward and one we are very excited about. I hope you arrive at the same conclusion.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this and your service to our community.

Best regards,

Chad Finsterwald

[504 Columbus Ave #5](#)

[Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

PROPOSAL FOR RESTORATION OF THE ALEXANDRA

1 message

Ben Flagg

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 3:09 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Ben Flagg, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 2.5 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ben Flagg
692 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02118



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

Support for Alexandria Hotel Development Plan

1 message

Bill Fleming

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 2:11 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "kim@kimjaney.org" <kim@kimjaney.org>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

I am writing to support the development plan for the Alexandria that is coming before the South End Landmarks Commission. I have been a South End resident for 40 years and that building has been steadily deteriorating since I arrived.

I have followed the discussion about the building and parcel in the news over the last decade, and it is clear to me that the development will require private capital. I believe that a hotel is an appropriate use for that location and will enhance the other businesses near the intersection of Mass Ave and Washington Street.

I have studied the design and think that it is both appropriate and attractive. The additional height does not detract from that area in the South End, with its wide mix of residential, commercial and institutional buildings

I support this plan wholeheartedly

Bill Fleming

[485 Harrison Avenue](#), Unitl 401

Boston, MA 02118



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

Re: Support Restoration of the Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>
To: Donna Gadomski

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:21 PM

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

Hello Donna,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 8:20 AM Donna Gadomski

wrote:

Dear Ms. Sharif, Hon. Janey and Mr. Armata,

I am a long-time resident of the South End (20+ years) and I'm writing to express my strong support for the proposal to restore the Alexandra Hotel.

This would be a welcome and long overdue restoration of this blighted corner of the neighborhood.

I'm grateful that the developers have the means, the vision and the commitment to make this restoration a reality.

It is very concerning to learn that there is opposition to this project with unrealistic views of a way forward, especially given the substantial funding required and the right team and vision to execute. There have been many proposals for development over decades and this is the first time there is truly the funding, plan and team to make this possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration and everything you do for the South End.

Best wishes,
Donna
[217 W Springfield Street](#)**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Re: Alexandra Hotel Project--a good idea!

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:12 PM

To: J Gantos

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

Hello Jack,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 8:49 AM J Gantos

wrote:

Hello,

My name is Jack Gantos and my wife and I live on Blackstone Square in the South End where we raised our daughter (who is now finishing college, so we have been here for a while).

Before marriage and family I was a student and lived in the South End when the elevated Orange Line ran down Washington Street—I was living on Thayer Street when cabs wouldn't dare to come down there.

There has been much good change in the South End—and so much new development pressing into the South End. The Alexandra Hotel Project is a great idea for a boutique hotel. It will preserve an important and unique historic building, provide an anchor building stretching into Roxbury, and it will bring commerce and life to a gateway corner of the South End. The Alexander is part of the 'old' South End and the longer it sits empty the more likely it is that it will be condemned—and what a loss that would be.

Please support this boutique hotel project, which in turn preserves our historic sites.

Thank you, Jack

"The Proponent proposes to retain and restore the façade of the existing Hotel Alexandra, and construct a new, approximately 150 room, twelve story boutique hotel with ground floor restaurant and café space, and a rooftop level bar/restaurant."

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

617-635-4517

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Alexandra Hotel Development

1 message

Brian Gokey

Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 9:54 AM

Good Day,

My name is Brian Gokey, I am co-president of the Hurley Blocks Neighborhood Association but am writing this letter personally to register my support of the current proposal for the Alexandra Hotel development.

I attended the last several community meetings and was very impressed by the development team's design, but also their commitment to work with the community. Counselor Janey spoke passionately at the last IAG meeting and I'd like to underscore the need for the communities of Roxbury and the South End to continue to work together. Unfortunately random political boundaries can create division rather than the vision of common purpose. Hopefully we can all work together to see the common good this development provides.

I live on Shawmut Ave., 1.5 blocks from the Alexandra. We all know that the Alexandra is blighted but can be restored and developed. Many years ago the city owned many of the blighted, though historically important buildings in the South End, and could sell them for \$1 to a developer who could transform them to their original grandeur. That doesn't happen any more.

The transformed Alexandra will add a dramatic new entrance to the South End/Lower Roxbury, enhance public safety, create a streetscape that encourages engagement, provide jobs, both construction and permanent. Importantly, I hope it encourages further development on Washington Street connecting the South End to Dudley Sq. The transition from historic to modern of the Alexandra design is striking. I feel it represents the mood of our dynamic city: from the stunning historic South End buildings to the quick-paced development already happening in Dudley. What that said, I'd like to caution that what we need is more "smart" development, not just development for development's sake, such as workforce housing, affordable commercial spaces and more. This development can anchor the transformation of Washington St. to everyone's benefit.

I thought many of the suggestions at the last meeting were especially helpful, such as creating internships for young people and a commitment to hire from within our communities. I don't know what the IAG will finalize regarding community benefits but I'm hopeful that many brought up at the last IAG meeting will be incorporated into the final plan.

Thank you,

Brian Gokey
503 Shawmut Ave
Boston 02118



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

SUPPORT For Alexandria Project

1 message

David Goldenheim

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 12:15 PM

Reply-To:

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councillor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is David Goldenheim, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for over 8 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

David Goldenheim

--

David A. Goldenheim



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

Hotel Alexandria

1 message

Justin Gould

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 6:55 PM

Dear Mr Sinatra,

My name is Justin Gould, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I have been a South End resident for 9 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandria. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Justin Gould MD
20 Claremont Park
Boston MA



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

SUPPORT FOR THE HOTEL ALEXANDRA DEVELOPMENT1 message

Rob Hagan

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:37 AM

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Rob Hagan, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of South End / Lower Roxbury to offer my support for the current proposal for the Alexandra Hotel redevelopment.

I have been a South End / Lower Roxbury resident for over 13 years. During this time, I have admired the Alexandra Hotel and hoped that it would someday be redeveloped. When I found out that the building has been in a state of disrepair for over 40 years I was appalled. How could such a critical gateway building into the city not be revitalized?

This fact really impressed upon me how important the current redevelopment opportunity is for the community and how we need to see the Alexandra Hotel redeveloped now.

I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists, many of whom do not live in the neighborhood and do not understand the consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment immediately. The building has been deemed structurally unsafe, and it will very soon reach a point where no part of it can be preserved. Right now, we have someone on board who has stepped up to the plate and is willing to save what is left of the building and at great expense to them when compared to a new ground-up building. These are not the days of \$1.00 sales to developers from the City of Boston, so height and density are critical to make the deal viable. We should let this development team preserve what is left before it's too late.

My fellow neighbors and I are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We have all been very impressed with the design and development team's presentations. Moreover, we all believe that a revitalized Alexandra Hotel will be an important and critical step to help connect the South End with Dudley Square.

I URGE YOU TO PLEASE FAST-TRACK THIS MUCH NEEDED DEVELOPMENT IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU FOR CRITICAL SUPPORT.

Thank you for reading.

Best Regards,

Rob Hagan
[103 W Springfield Street](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

Support for Hotel Alexandra development

1 message

Matt Hammond

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:45 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Matthew Hammond, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for only 2 years but during this short time I have been mystified and saddened by the state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. It is such a beautiful building but has become an eyesore for the neighborhood.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

My family and I want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hammond

32 Yarmouth St, Unit A
Boston, MA 02116



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

Hotel Alexandra

1 message

Nick Hanneman

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 12:40 PM

To: faisalsharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Nick Hanneman, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for only a few months, but have worked in the neighborhood and enjoyed the restaurants and stores for years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Nick Hanneman

[192 W Brookline Street Unit 2 Boston MA 02118](#)

Nick Hanneman

Senior Vice President

[126 Newbury St, 5th Floor](#)
[Boston, MA 02116](#)

m:



COMPASS



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

Hotel Alexandra Development

1 message

Tricia Healy Mitchell

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 3:23 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilors Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Patricia Healy Mitchell, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for many years. During this time, I have witnessed the constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. In addition, I DO NOT support the activists suggestion for a homeless shelter be put in its place. The South End, especially the south-easterly section, already takes on more than it's share of support for the homeless and addicted of the city of Boston. To add more to this community burden is unreasonable.

I am extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. Additionally, I am very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Healy Mitchell

[86 W. Springfield St. #1](#)

[Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Sean Hjorth

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 9:49 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Sean Hjorth, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 2+ years, and my girlfriend has been a resident for over 7 years. (I also lived in the South End from 2000 to 2005.). During this time, we have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. We are very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and we believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sean Hjorth

41 E. Springfield St
Apt. 1
Boston, MA 02118



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

Re: Please go ahead with the Hotel Alexandra project as planned!

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:42 PM

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

Hello Anne,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 7:57 PM Anne Hjortshoj wrote:

Hello,

I've lived in the South End since 1998, first on Harrison Avenue, then on Massachusetts Avenue. During this time, I have witnessed the constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra.

I'm extremely happy about the potential redevelopment of this building, and I'm writing to state my **full and unequivocal support** of the hotel project as currently proposed.

I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. I fear the development opportunity will be lost if this project does not quickly move forward.

My neighbors are very excited about potential development of this blighted property. We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Anne Hjortshoj
[466 Massachusetts Avenue #3](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

--

Anne Hjortshoj |

Hjortshoj is pronounced "YORT-soy."**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Re: Support for Alexandra Project

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:14 PM

To: Jeremy Holman

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

Cc: Jen Adleman

Hello Jeremy, Jennifer, and Lubo

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 7:48 PM Jeremy Holman

wrote:

We are the Trustees of the 691 Residences Condominium, a 40-unit, 6-story condominium located at [691 Massachusetts Avenue](#) in the South End.

As Trustees, we are writing to express our full support of the proposed renovation to the Alexandra Hotel.

Our building was constructed in 2011, and has been just one small part of revitalizing this section of Mass Ave, with new housing stock and about 60 residents. The Alexandra Hotel in its current state continues to have a negative impact on our residents' quality of life and the use and value of our properties and community. We believe the proposed renovation is a great opportunity to renew this decrepit, unsightly, and underutilized part of our neighborhood.

We fully and unequivocally support the proposal to restore the hotel and bring new life to this corner. While we recognize there are ongoing efforts to outline mitigation measures and community benefits, we support the overall proposal as a positive contribution to our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our letter as part of ongoing public input processes.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Holman
Jennifer Howe
Lubo Karadashkov
Trustees, 691 Residences Condominium
[691 Massachusetts Avenue](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE HOTEL ALEXANDRA DEVELOPMENT

1 message

Dennis Hong

Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 9:07 PM

Reply-To:

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Cc: Brian Gokey, Rob Hagan, Nelson Thaemert

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Dennis Hong, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a home owner/resident of the South End to offer my **STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT** for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for over ten years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am **VERY CONCERNED** that the current proposal will be killed by historical activists who DON'T EVEN LIVE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD and **do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.**

My fellow neighbors and I are **ARE EXTREMELY EXCITED** about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We have all been **VERY IMPRESSED AND VERY ENCOURAGED** about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood - ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THE SITE IS AN IMPORTANT GATEWAY TO THE CITY.

Please do not let this project be DERAILED. The arguments against the proposal are UNPRODUCTIVE AND OVERBLOWN. **We ALL WANT THIS DEVELOPMENT HERE. THIS PROJECT IS AN EXCELLENT IDEA.**

PLEASE DO NOT LET THIS PROPERTY BE DEVELOPED INTO A HOMELESS SHELTER. PLEASE DO NOT SCREW AROUND WITH THIS DEVELOPER.

PLEASE FAST-TRACK THIS MUCH NEEDED DEVELOPMENT IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU FOR CRITICAL SUPPORT.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis Hong
Owner of [103 W Springfield Street](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

Re: Alexandra project

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:40 PM

To: Mark Howard

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

Hello Mark,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 9:33 PM Mark Howard

wrote:

I am writing to let you know that as a South End resident my family of four supports the redevelopment of the Alexandra Hotel. I have lived in the south End for 14 years and this building has grown into worse condition everyone of those years. Now is the time to make a change before the building falls down. Bring jobs and revitalize this intersection and please approve the development project.

It would be ridiculous to do otherwise.

Sincerely,

Mark Howard, MD

[437 Shawmut Ave](#)

[Unit 1](#)

[Boston MA 02118](#)

--

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Re: Restoration of Alexandria Hotel on Washington Street South End

2 messages

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:18 PM

To: Jess W

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

Hi Jess,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandria Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 12:22 PM Jess W

wrote:

Dear All:

I am writing as a residence of South End. Often I can't attend hearings on community issues as I travel most of the time for work. I do want to send you an email expressing my support for the project to restore the Alexandria Hotel on Washington Street. It has been such an eye sore and deterioration site for South End. More importantly, having this hotel restored will not only bring jobs, vitality for the area, and economic growth for SE.

I strongly vote for the restoration of the hotel.

Thank you!

Jess

**Faisa Sharif**South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)

Jess W

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:22 PM

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

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

Faisa:

Thank you so much for the acknowledgment. I know many South Enders are very supportive of this initiative.

Appreciate all the great work you have done and doing!

Jess

Sent from my iPhone

[Quoted text hidden]



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

Hotel Alexandra - I support the project

1 message

Connie Johnson

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 9:29 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Connie Johnson, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the proposed Hotel Alexandra development.

I attended one of the informational meetings on Jan 9 concerning this project and I am impressed and encouraged by the design team's presentation. While no project of this kind will please everyone and some may disagree on the design, I believe that a business such as the proposed hotel can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood, not to mention provide jobs (where there are next to none today) during the construction phase, and later during the hotel operational phase.

I have been a South End resident for 14 years and I pass by the Alexandra daily. During this time, I have witnessed the constant state of disrepair, unsightly and neglected appearance of the Hotel Alexandra. Its an eyesore, it becomes more and more dangerous as it declines, and its a negative mark on the neighborhood. It makes the Mass Ave-Washington Street intersection unsightly, its bad for condo unit sales and apartment rentals, and it's bad for the local businesses surrounding it. It has the potential to be a beautifully restored building with thriving businesses.

I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. It would be a shame to let this building continue to decline and suffer the fate of the Ivory Bean building.

A project of this magnitude requires massive financial backing and there are few prospects that would be willing to move forward. We now have a team that is willing to invest, has presented their design, and is wanting to move forward.

We want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on your support.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Connie Johnson

1723 Washington St



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

Project Alexandra

1 message

Erica Karlin

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 5:40 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, kim@kimjaney.org, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata and Mr. Sinatra,

My name is Erica Karlin and I wanted to write to say that I am firmly IN SUPPORT of the proposed hotel going up in the old Hotel Alexandra building.

I currently live on [11 Worcester Square \(Boston, MA 02118\)](#) and live quite close to the hotel. Over the past several years, I have seen it sink further and further in disrepair, and am incredibly excited about the prospect of the revitalization of the building.

Thank you again,

Erica Karlin

[11 Worcester Square, Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

Hotel Alexandria

1 message

Aron Keesbury

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 7:56 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Aron Keesbury, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I have been a South End resident for 14 years years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandria. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aron Keesbury

[464 Shawmut Ave](#)



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

Supporting the Hotel Alexandra Project

1 message

Travis Keller

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 9:13 PM

To: "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "Michael.A.Sinatra@boston.gov" <Michael.A.Sinatra@boston.gov>, "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Good evening Councillor Janey, Ms, Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra,

My name is Travis Keller and I live at [517 Shawmut Ave, 1 block](#) in from Mass Ave and 2 blocks from the proposed Alexandra Hotel redevelopment project.

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the proposed project. There is never a proposal that will satisfy everyone and it is too easy to get lost nitpicking details and lose an amazing opportunity. The Hotel project offers a unique chance to take a iconic but blighted building and use it to radically improve the corner of Mass Ave and Washington. Redevelopment would improve the entrance to South End/Lower Roxbury and potentially begin to build a corridor between the South End and Dudley Square. The hotel, restaurant and bar would also bring visitors into the neighborhood, spurring more economic development. To me, the complaints are vastly outweighed by the benefits.

Given the long and complicated history with this parcel, I urge you to take this opportunity and support the proposed project. The developers seem to have pursued the project in a thoughtful way with consideration given to the community's interest.

Do not let this important opportunity be lost for the South End.

Thank you,
Travis Keller

[517 Shawmut Avenue, No 1](#)



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

Abutter to Hotel Alexandra development

1 message

Kate Kelner

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 2:37 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Kate Zeitler, and I am writing to you to chime in with strong support for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

My family and I are live on the same block as Hotel Alexandra on Massachusetts Ave and have owned our condo since 2013. During this time, we have witnessed the constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. We have had raccoons climb from the hotel's dilapidated upper levels and try to nest under our roof deck furniture. The sidewalks are rarely shoveled and there is always trash outside, even on days where there is no pickup. The fear of something falling off the facade has become much more real to us since giving birth to our daughter.

My husband is the trustee of our condo association and all of us are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this property. We love our neighborhood and feel confident the hotel would bring jobs to locals and encourage the opening of small businesses.

As a self-employed graphic designer, I work for a bunch of the local South End businesses; it's been exciting to watch the foot traffic in the South End grow as tourists venture out and explore our beautiful neighborhood. Having a hotel in our area would be instrumental to the success and growth of our retail, fitness and restaurant businesses. (I'm also an indoor cycling instructor & mentorship leader at Recycle Studio in the South End!)

We all want this development & are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you so much!

Kate Zeitler

619 Massachusetts Ave Apt 4
Boston MA 02118

Sent from my iPhone



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

Re: I vote in Favor

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:20 PM

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

Hello Caryn,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 9:29 AM Caryn King

wrote:

Please cast my vote in favor of the Alexander Hotel Project!

"The Proponent proposes to retain and restore the façade of the existing Hotel Alexandra, and construct a new, approximately 150 room, twelve story boutique hotel with ground floor restaurant and café space, and a rooftop level bar/restaurant."

Caryn King
[105 Pembroke Street, #1](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

"We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope" MLK

live now
be kind
share
ENJOY
create
smile
laugh
help others

--



Faisa Sharif

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

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

Hotel Alexandria

2 messages

Seth Koepfel

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 5:01 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Cc: Stacy Koepfel

Hi Folks,

Please accept the following letter as my support of the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I have been a South End resident for 20 years and have watched as several attempts to address this important landmark have fallen by the wayside. It is clear this project will require extensive capital commitments to preserve the façade and the only way to accomplish is to allow the development of the adjacent parcel into a hotel of the size, scope and height being proposed.

Given the current development climate I fear it is now or never to save this treasure of a building and important landmark.

Please and thanks,

Sincerely,

Seth

Seth Koepfel | [19 Union Park 1/1A](#) | Boston, MA 02118 |

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>To: Seth Koepfel
<michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Stacy Koepfel

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:17 PM
, Michael Sinatra

Hello Seth,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandria Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

[Quoted text hidden]

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Faisa Sharif

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

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

Re: Support of Hotel Alexandra

2 messages

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>
To: Jonathan KoernerMon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:25 PM
, Michael Sinatra <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Hello Jonathan,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 2:36 PM Jonathan Koerner

wrote:

Good afternoon. I am writing to share my support for the current proposed plan for the Hotel Alexandra project. As a resident of the South End of almost 50 years and seeing the Alexandra vacancy for as long as I can remember. A project that will be bringing life and vibrancy to the corner of Washington and Mass Ave should not be hindered. Cleaning up the Methadone Mile should;d be a priority and this is just another step in the right direction. I would hope that any roadblocks or self interests would be set aside for the greater good the the South End community.

Please keep in mind for things to progress change must occur. Before Tent City existed my mother was arrested protesting while pregnant with me and I was dubbed the "Tent City Baby". My mother was also worked with SNAP and they as well are behind this project and will be writing.

Please when you are voting keep in mind the South End is on a path in the right direction. This project would make an impact in the most positive direction.

Regards,

Jonathan
Jonathan Koerner
Principalwww.oneboxcommunications.com

Boston | Miami



--

**Faisa Sharif**
South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Office of Neighborhood Services
[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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Jonathan Koerner

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:46 PM

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

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

Thank you for the response and putting my comments on record. Much appreciated.

Jonathan Koerner
Principal

www.oneboxcommunications.com

Boston | Miami



On Mar 11, 2019, at 10:25 PM, Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov> wrote:

Hello Jonathan,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 2:36 PM Jonathan Koerner

wrote:

Good afternoon. I am writing to share my support for the current proposed plan for the Hotel Alexandra project. As a resident of the South End of almost 50 years and seeing the Alexandra vacancy for as long as I can remember. A project that will be bringing life and vibrancy to the corner of Washington and Mass Ave should not be hindered. Cleaning up the Methadone Mile should;d be a priority and this is just another step in the right direction. I would hope that any roadblocks or self interests would be set aside for the greater good the the South End community.

Please keep in mind for things to progress change must occur. Before Tent City existed my mother was arrested protesting while pregnant with me and I was dubbed the "Tent City Baby". My mother was also worked with SNAP and they as well are behind this project and will be writing.

Please when you are voting keep in mind the South End is on a path in the right direction. This project would make an impact in the most positive direction.

Regards,

Jonathan
Jonathan Koerner
Principal

www.oneboxcommunications.com

Boston | Miami

<PastedGraphic-1.tiff>



Faisa Sharif

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

617-635-4517

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

Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Michelle Laboy

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 6:32 AM

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, kim@kimjaney.org, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

My name is Michelle Laboy, a neighbor of the Alexandra Hotel in Chester Square, a practicing architect, urban planner, and professor at Northeastern's School of Architecture, with background in engineering and urbanism, and a founding member of Friends of Chester Park.

I write in support of the proposal to develop a hotel at the Alexandra site, including the tower. I speak for myself only, but in the context of being a very active member of this community. I have lived in this neighborhood for ten years and I have seen the deterioration of the existing building, the partial collapse and demolition of the adjacent townhouse, and the multiple presentations of failed attempts at selling and redeveloping this property. I have also seen the effects of the opioid crisis in our stretch of Mass Ave, and the way in which public space is taken over for illicit behavior when the space is not activated by many eyes on the street. It is time for this property to be brought back to life. The building has no future otherwise.

As an architect I appreciate the historical character of this neighborhood and respect the values of preservation. But as a scholar of building adaptability and urban resilience, I know buildings need to adapt over time, and I am suspicious of nostalgic arguments that romanticize or idealize a past that never existed and that prevent the neighborhood from building affordably, improving the local economy and bringing new life to neglected urban and public space.

I am very interested in seeing this project succeed. And I am concerned about the impact of some flawed arguments against this project. As an expert in this field, I offer a critique to the argument that this project is going to establish a precedent for many other projects to build higher than allowed: (1) the vast majority of parcels in the South End cannot support a building of this height - they are far too narrow for elevator cores and the required egress stairs, etc; (2) I have seen approvals from South End Landmarks that deviate from the standards, allowed on a case by case basis, and they are careful to write in the letter of approval language to the effect of "This can not be used as a precedent for any other project". That flexibility is a necessary condition of having rules that don't apply so neatly to every parcel. I do NOT believe that this proposal getting approved will result in a bunch more towers throughout the South End. That's simply a scare tactic and not true.

Paraphrasing Kevin Lynch on principles of good urban design: we orient ourselves in urban districts because they not only have a repetitive fabric and identity, but also because there are nodes, edges and special landmarks. The Alexandra is not an average South End building or parcel - this is a place where exceptions to the rule make sense.

I am not suggesting this is a perfect proposal. The height will have some impact on access to natural light of abutters, and the sunlight and the view of neighboring roof decks including my own, but I believe a condition of approval should be that developers mitigate or compensate for that by making improvements to the surrounding public realm, including better transit stops, better configurations for safety at the intersection, public art and landscape - especially on the Mass Ave where the sidewalks are narrower and the facade is fairly blank and a storefront will not exist to activate the street. There are other ways to honor the history of this site. This used to be the gateway to Chester Park (this part of Mass Ave used to be call that) and was a beautiful boulevard with trees in the median. Developers could provide signage celebrating this history, welcoming visitors to Historic Chester Park; they could also plant trees in the median, make a mural on the Mass.Ave side honoring the place, etc. I also support conditions that ensure they create good jobs with a livable wage - that helps improve the quality of urban life too, not just for immediate abutters but for all employees, with cascading effects on many others. These conditions are not onerous and can make for a better hotel. They should be asked to make contributions to the public realm and wellbeing, but be allowed to move forward.

Thanks for your attention.

Sincerely,
Michelle Laboy
Principal, FieLDworkshop
Assistant Professor, Northeastern University School of Architecture
Founding Member, Friends of Chester Park
Resident of [562 Massachusetts Avenue Apt.5, Boston, MA](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra

1 message

Ross Leimberg

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 8:51 AM

To: faisal.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Cc:

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Ross Leimberg, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 8 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Ross

23 Worcester st unit 1
Boston MA 02118

March 12th, 2019

President Andrea Campbell
Boston City Council
1 City Hall Square, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

The Honorable President Andrea Campbell,

UNITE HERE Local 26 is writing on behalf of its 10,000 members who work in the hospitality in strong opposition to Resolution 0519 "Resolution that the Renovation of the Historic Alexandra Hotel Follow the Zoning Code."

The Alexandra Hotel site has been vacant for decades. The current development team has agreed to work with UNITE HERE Local 26 to ensure hiring from the neighborhood and to ensure a workforce that reflects Boston's great diversity. The only way a hotel can be financially feasible at this site is for the room count to be at least 150 rooms. Our members who live in this neighborhood have consistently stated that they strongly prefer the additional height in return for restoration, revitalization and economic opportunity.

This resolution would destroy opportunity for Boston residents. I ask that you and the Boston City Council vote down this Resolution.

Sincerely,



Brian Lang, President
UNITE HERE Local 26

CC: Boston City Council
Brian Golden, Director, BPDA



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

Alexandra Development

1 message

Miguel Londono

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:20 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Miguel Londono, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 7 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Miguel Londono

[691 Massachusetts Ave, Unit 503](#)



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

The Alexandra

1 message

Alex Lopez

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 12:36 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Alex Lopez, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a Boston resident for 25 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

Fellow neighbors and business owners are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this property. The current proposal is impressive and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development.

Please fast-track this much needed development in our neighborhood.

We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

XXXX
(XXX) XXX-XXXX
Address



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

Hotel Alexandra Redevelopment

1 message

Anne Lower

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:16 AM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>

Dear Ms. Sharif, Ms. Janey, Mr. Armata and Mr. Sinatra,

As a resident and homeowner in the South End for over 25 years - and nearby abutter of the Hotel Alexandra - I am writing to express my full support for the proposed rehabilitation and redevelopment of the property into a hotel complex with ground floor retail.

This property has languished for years, with too many missed opportunities for improvement and revitalization. Much of Washington Street has seen a resurgence in commerce and activity - most recently with the addition of Anoush'ella on the corner of Washington and West Newton - but beyond Mass Ave it still lacks the street life and energy that I'm sure the Alexandra project will bring.

We who live on or near Washington Street have been let down too many times with other efforts to develop the Alexandra and this project finally feels viable and reasonable for the neighborhood.

I encourage you all to fully support this project and look forward to welcoming a new Alexandra Hotel into the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Anne Lower
[38 West Newton Street](#)



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

Hotel Project, Mass Ave and Washington

1 message

nicholas mabardy

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 3:12 PM

To: nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, faisal.sharif@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Nicholas Mabardy, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 14 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. Parking can be solved with valet service and other available property in this area.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood. This neighborhood would benefit from this investment.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicholas and Alison Mabardy

[463 Massachusetts Avenue #4](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra

1 message

Robb Marchione

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 10:57 AM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Dear Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Robb Marchione, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 2 years, and resident of Boston for over 10 years. Initially, we rented an apartment until my husband and I could afford to buy our dream home on Concord St, not far from the proposed construction site. During my time Boston and the South End, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood. We imagine all of the small shops, cafes, restaurants, etc that will pop up to support the clientele of the hotel, and breath new life into the local economy.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank You.

Robb Marchione, MD

[31 E Concord Street](#)[Boston, MA 02118](#)

--

Robb J. Marchione, MDDiplomate of the American Board of Dermatology
Northeast Dermatology Associates



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

Re: 100% in support of proposed Alexandra project

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:55 PM

To: JT McGrath

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

Hello JT,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 2:38 PM JT McGrath

wrote:

Hi there,

I'll keep this short. I live at 1154 Washington st. and am 100% in support of the proposed project to restore and build a hotel in the Alexandra building. I routinely pass the intersection of Mass/Wash st. and the building as it stands currently is a dangerous eye sore. That whole corner is a wreck and I often feel very uncomfortable just being there. Someone needs to clean it up. Please push this through asap.

Life is change,

JT

--

**Faisa Sharif**South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Support for the Hotel Alexandra development

1 message

Ahou Meydani

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 7:17 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Ahou Meydani-Korb, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 5 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ahou Meydani-Korb

27 Greenwich Park, Unit 2
Boston, MA 02118



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

Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Joe Misdraji

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 8:30 AM

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

Dear Michael,

I had intended to go to the public meeting on 3/11/2019 on the Hotel Alexandra but was unable to attend. However, I wanted to add my ten cents about the Hotel Alexandra. If the Op-Ed piece in the Boston Sun is accurate, the developers intend to put a 14 story building over the Hotel Alexandra.

That building is an architecturally distinguished building (I hate to use the word "jewel" but there you go). I realize it's been a long time coming to get someone to redevelop that building, but in desperation to get it restored, we shouldn't produce something that can never be undone.

The Hotel Alexandra deserves to be restored in a manner that allows it to shine, not in a manner that emphasizes how the developers "tried to keep the facade" or something equally sad.

I have to admit I am not very familiar with the proposed building, but I feel strongly that if Mr. Jerome, a former executive secretary of the South End Landmark District commission, has strong reservations about this proposal, then it's probably a mistake. And I add my support to his reservations.

Joseph Misdraji

[7 Ringgold Street #2](#)
Boston, MA 02118



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

Hotel Alexandra development

1 message

David Mitchell

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:44 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councillor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is David Mitchell, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 7 years and live one block away from the Hotel. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Dave Mitchell

[86 West Springfield St, Unit 1](#)
[Boston, Ma 02118](#)



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

The Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Bill Mootos

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 5:10 PM

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, faisal.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Bill Mootos, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 22 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill Mootos

1723 Washington St #303
Boston, MA 02118

Sent from my iPhone



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

Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Tess Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 9:46 AM
To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Tess Olson, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident and homeowner for 1.5 years (Boston resident for 9.5 years). During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. It was something that I noticed even before I moved to the South End. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My neighbors and I are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this building to be revitalized and for the corner to be reactivated with life. Please fast-track this much-needed improvement in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tess Olson

[463 Mass Ave. Apt. 2](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra

1 message

Charlene Ong

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 12:26 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Charlene Ong, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 3 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlene Ong
[1672R Washington Street Apt 102](#)

[Boston MA 02118](#)



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

(no subject)

1 message

Frank Pandolfe

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 11:14 AM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Frank Pandolfe, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 7 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frank Pandolfe
686 Tremont St Apt 4
Boston, MA 02118



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

Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Roberto Poli

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 10:28 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Amata, Mr. Sinatra:

Our names are Roberto Poli and Salvador Saca, and are writing to you not only as residents of the South End, but also as neighbors of the Alexandra Hotel. We are writing to offer our strong and unequivocal support for the current Alexandra Hotel proposed development. My husband, Salvador, has lived here since 2016, but I've lived at Chester Square for over fifteen years, and have followed the various (attempted and successful) purchases of the Alexandra Hotel. I've been invariably disappointed by the outcomes - in particular, more recently, when the Church of Scientology halted the renovation for lack of funds.

While, as a historian and preservationist, it's somewhat unsettling to think of a glass addition towering over the roof line of the Victorian townhouses at Chester-Square (we would actually see the back of it every time we peek outside our living room windows or step outside our front door), I do recognize that the Alexandra Hotel needs to be rehabilitated, and that the current plan might be the last hope and only viable option to see that happen.

We absolutely oppose the idea of a homeless shelter occupy the Alexandra Hotel: we have similar facilities in the area already, from Pine Street Inn to Rosie's Place. Perhaps selfishly, we feel that it would lower the quality of life in the neighborhood. A concerning rise in crime as a consequence of the opening of the methadone clinic down the street has already diminished said quality of life, while the cost of living here rose exponentially over the past decade and no longer reflects it. The existence of a methadone clinic in a residential area has already proven to be a plight to our neighborhood; we can no longer enjoy our parks during the summer, often populated by methadone users and littered by used syringes, needles, etc. Because of it, petty crimes and theft have become the new normal in our neighborhood. The nearness of the Alexandra Hotel to the methadone clinic would make Massachusetts Avenue and adjacent streets a hotbed for support services; it should not be the destiny of a residential area already fraught with issues.

We are also concerned with the attempt to kill the current plan on behalf of a group of non-resident activists, who do not comprehend what it means to have seen not only the Hotel itself in disrepair for so long, but also the area regress over the past few years. We do desire for the intersection of Washington Street and Massachusetts Avenue to thrive, and do see the potential for increased business (restaurant and cafe in the building, and further local businesses generating from the presence of prospective hotel guests), along with the aesthetically pleasing outcome that would derive from it. We would like to encourage you not to fall for the narrative that not pursuing the idea of a homeless shelter or other support service would constitute a moral failing on behalf of the city. If anything, we would argue that developing a hotel would only boost Southenders' morale and increase the appeal of the neighborhood we live in and love so much.

We are therefore in full support of the current plan, and would like to ask you to please fast-track the development of the Alexandra Hotel. We need your critical support for it to succeed.

With gratitude,

Roberto Poli and Salvador Saca
[548 Massachusetts Avenue](#)
at [Chester Square](#)



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

39 Worcester Street SUPPORTS the Hotel Alexandria Project1 message

Jason M. Pratt

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 11:38 AM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Jason Pratt and I am writing to you as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I have been a South End resident for 7 years.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jason Pratt
39 Worcester Street



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

I support the Alexandra Hotel Project

1 message

Jennifer Priester

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 1:17 PM

Reply-To: Jennifer Priester

To: faisalsharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Jennifer Priester and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a Boston resident since 1999, and a South End resident for 2 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Priester

[692 Tremont St.](#)

[Boston, MA 02118](#)



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

Support - Hotel Alexandria

1 message

Ryan Quinn

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 3:02 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Ryan Quinn and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandria development.

I live at [15 E Springfield st unit 3](#) (a stone throw away from the Alexandria lot) and have been a South End resident for 3 years. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ryan Quinn

[15 E Springfield st unit 3 BOSTON ma](#)



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

Letter of STRONG Support for Hotel Alexandra

2 messages

john rafferty

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 4:24 PM

To: faisal.sharif@boston.gov, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is John Raftery, a resident of [608 Massachusetts Ave](#) in the Southend writing to you as concerned citizens of Boston to offer my **STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.**

I have been South End resident for the last 20 years. I am currently raising my 2 year old daughter in the South End. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. We are very concerned that the current hotel proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel. I have lived for 14 years diagonally across the street from the hotel on the corner of Mass Ave and Shawmut. I am concerned about the safety of my daughter in this neighborhood and **completely OPPOSED to the proposed idea of putting a homeless shelter on this site.**

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

My neighbors and I all want this development. **Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Raftery
[608 Massachusetts Ave #6](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

Faisal Sharif <faisal.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:18 PM

To: john rafferty

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

Hello John,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisal

[Quoted text hidden]

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Faisa Sharif

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Hotel Alexandra development. As a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT

1 message

Kevin Rich

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 4:14 AM

Reply-To:

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Cc: Nicholas Armata <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

Dear,
Counselor Janey,
Ms. Sharif,
Mr. Armata, and
Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Kevin Rich, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 18 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra.

I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property.

We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kevin Rich
1597 [Washington St.](#),
[Unit 500](#)
[Boston, MA 02118](#)

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android



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

Alexandria Hotel project

1 message

Kyle Robidoux

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 3:00 PM

To: "faisa.sharif@boston.gov" <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, "nicholas.armata@boston.gov" <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, "michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov" <michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov>, "kim.janey@boston.gov" <kim.janey@boston.gov>

I am writing to express my concerns over the current proposal to redevelop the Alexandria Hotel building. As a Lower Roxbury resident, I see very few community benefits to a project such as this. And the proposed scope of the building is not aligned with the existing surrounding buildings. I also feel like very few solid, living-wage job opportunities are going to come out of this project for local Boston residents both during the construction period and on a permanent basis.

Can you please let me know when the next community meeting for this project is scheduled for?
Thanks so much.

Kyle Robidoux
[6 Greenwich Court](#)
[Roxbury 02120](#)

Kyle Robidoux



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

Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Michael Rodriguez

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 6:01 PM

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, Nicholas Armata <nicholas.armata@boston.gov>, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Michael Rodriguez, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 21 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Rodriguez

[578 Massachusetts Ave](#)
[Boston, MA. 02118](#)



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

The Alexandra Hotel

1 message

Marcia Rothenberg

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 3:00 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Cc: "Steve (braincoach)"

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

We are Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Rothenberg, and are writing to you as concerned citizens of Boston and as residents of the South End to offer our STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

We have been South End residents for 3 years. During this time, we have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Rothenberg
1723 Washington Street #509
Boston, MA.



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

Alexandra Hotel

2 messages

Rudy Mitchell

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:07 PM

To: nicholas.armata@boston.gov, faisa.sharif@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

I live not far from the Alexandra Hotel property and have been here for 33years. I support the current development proposal because it seems to be the only financially viable proposal after many failed attempts. I would like to see this move forward so we can get this long neglected building redeveloped.

Mr. Rudy L. Mitchell
241 Northampton St.
Boston, MA 02118

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:09 PM

To: Rudy Mitchell

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

Hi Rudy,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

[Quoted text hidden]

--

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Office of Neighborhood Services

Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Fwd: Alexandra hotel

1 message

Jane Ruzanski

To: michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 1:07 PM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jane Ruzanski
Date: March 10, 2019 at 12:59:11 PM EDT
To:
Subject: Alexandra hotel

Dear Mr. Sinatra

My name is Jane Ruzanski, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and a 40 year resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT-for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have witnessed the constant state of disrepair of this hotel. I am concerned that the current proposal will be killed by the activists who do not have to deal with the dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

I am impressed and encouraged about the design team's presentation and believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further develop this neighborhood.

Please fast track this development in our neighborhood. I am counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Jane Ruzanski

Sent from my iPad



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

URGENT Hotel Alexandra

1 message

Home

Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 4:00 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Michael Secher and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my **STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT** for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development. I have been a South End resident since July 2018. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

I am extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Michael Secher
Owner, DISTRICT AUDIO, LLC
1721A Washington Street
Boston, MA



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

Re: Alexandra Project

1 message

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 11:19 PM

To: Joanne Silberg

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

Hello Joanne,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

On Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 11:06 AM Joanne Silberg

wrote:

Hello - I'm writing to express my support of the Alexandra project that is currently under consideration. As a resident of the South End neighborhood, I'd be excited to see such a beautiful, historic building restored to its former glory.

Kindly,
Joanne Silberg
[95 Appleton St Unit 1](#)

**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Office of Neighborhood Services

[617-635-4517](tel:617-635-4517)Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)

March 8, 2019

Michael Sinatra, Project Manager
Boston Planning & Development Agency
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Re: the proposed redevelopment of the Alexandra Hotel

Dear Mr. Sinatra:

As the president of the Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association since 2010, I have been involved with many projects that have been redeveloped with the assistance and oversight of the BRA and now BPDA. I have not always been pleased with the results, but I have always respected the process. An investment and development team buy a property at the market rate given the existing zoning restrictions, create a plan, and work with the abutting neighborhoods and key institutions, including the city and the BPDA, to revise that plan to take their rights and interests into account. Sometimes, because the developer is not pursuing the most profitable project, but one that has community benefits of one type or another, variances are granted to make the project financially feasible. No one gets everything they want, but, ideally, the developer and investors make their profit and the neighbors get a building and building use that, even if they do not love it, they can live with. Everyone is better off.

In the case of the Hotel Alexandra, the process has been a travesty. The Church of Scientology bought the building in question in 2008 at the market rate price given the existing zoning restrictions and is now attempting to sell that building at a price that reflects the absence of any meaningful zoning restrictions. To make the project financially feasible at the price it is paying, the developer must design and construct a building that shreds precedent and makes a mockery of long-time zoning and the role of the BPDA in preserving the integrity of the "blighted" areas it is supposed to serve. While several neighbors and neighborhood associations, including mine, have voiced support for the building, they have done so not because they want a thirteen- of fourteen-story building, but because that is the price of giving the Scientologists their price. If this does not match the legal definition of extortion, it does meet its moral definition. In economic terms, it is market failure, and one induced by the BPDA's failure to act as a guardian of the areas it was created to protect.

The true market price of the building is the current value of the future revenue stream of the project with the highest returns given the current zoning restrictions minus the cost of construction including the \$3 million estimated to restore the current building's structural integrity. That is far less than the developer is paying and that is the number the BPDA should have insisted on from the very beginning.

Anything more is a give-away to the Scientologists at the cost of the community—they drive away with a fat bag of cash and we get a thirteen or fourteen-story middle finger summing up, extending, and immortalizing the scorn and contempt they have shown to the neighborhoods the last ten years.

Sincerely,

George Stergios

Cc: Ed Flynn, Kim Janey, Jon Santiago, Sonia Chang-Diaz, Mayor Walsh, SELDC, Peter Sanborn, Catherine Hunt, Althea Garrison, Stephen Jerome



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

Support for Alexandra Hotel Project

2 messages

Nicole Sweeney

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 6:37 PM

To: kim.janey@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, nicholas.amata@boston.com, faisa.sharif@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Nicole Sweeney, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 2 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed and very encouraged about the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Sweeney
81 Worcester St. Boston MA 02118

--

Nicole Sweeney
cell: | email:

Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 10:15 PM

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

Hello Nicole,

Thank you for engaging with the development proposal for the Alexandra Hotel. Please accept this email as confirmation that I have received your comments related to this proposal. I will make sure it's on record with the BPDA as the Article 80 large project review process continues. Should this project move forward to a Zoning Board of Appeal and South End Landmark District Commission hearing, I will forward your comments to both boards. If your position on this proposal changes, feel free to write to me with any relevant updates.

Best,
Faisa

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Faisa Sharif**

South End/Bay Village and Somali Community Liaison for
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Office of Neighborhood Services
617-635-4517
Sign up for neighborhood news [here](#)



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

Support for Hotel Alexandra development project

1 message

Laura Tadvalkar

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 12:15 PM

To: faisa.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Laura Tadvalkar, and I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a South End resident for 5 years. During this time, I have witnessed the disastrous and constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra. I am very concerned that the current proposal will be killed by activists who do not have to deal with the daily dangerous consequences of not moving forward with the redevelopment of the parcel.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the currently proposed development of this blighted property. We are very impressed with and very encouraged by the design team's presentation, and I believe that it can be an important and critical anchor to further development in the neighborhood.

I agree that all views on the proposal should be heard, but I am concerned that loud voices from a small number of activists may drown out the overwhelming support of most South End residents. We all want this development. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Tadvalkar

5 Dwight Street Apt 3
Boston, MA 02118

KAPLAN LAW LLC
BUSINESS + REAL ESTATE LITIGATION

123 SOUTH STREET, 2ND FLOOR, BOSTON, MA 02111
P (617) 558-5582 | F (617) 558-0250

BRIAN S. KAPLAN

March 8, 2019

BY EMAIL

Michael Sinatra, MPA
Boston Planning & Development Agency
Once City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Alexandra Hotel

Dear Mr. Sinatra:

This firm represents Tenants' Development Corporation ("TDC"), which owns 623 & 627 Massachusetts Avenue, in Boston. TDC is a direct abutter to the Alexandra Hotel project (the "Proposed Project"), at 1767-1769 Washington Street (the "Project Site"), proposed by Alexandra Partners, LLC, JB Ventures LLC and TCR Development LLC (the "Developers").

TDC strongly opposes the Proposed Project in its current form – or in anything resembling its current form.

Tenants' Development Corporation

TDC is a nonprofit organization that has provided and maintained quality, affordable housing in Boston for over 50 years. TDC was founded in 1968 by a group of low-income renters, who were sick and tired of the sub-standard and hazardous housing that was available to them and to people like them. TDC has renovated or developed hundreds of quality units for low-income families. TDC has also renovated and preserved historic buildings for quality low-income housing, such as the building that Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr., lived in while he studied at Boston University.

623 & 627 Massachusetts Avenue are two of the buildings that TDC renovated, and currently maintains, for quality low-income housing. There are 10 residential units in these buildings. Low-income families live in all of the units.

627 Massachusetts Avenue directly abuts the Project Site. It shares a party wall with the current structure at the Project Site.

The Proposed Project

TDC is very concerned about the harms that the Proposed Project will cause to TDC's properties, and to the quality of life for TDC's low-income tenants. TDC's biggest concerns are summarized as follows.

Density. The Proposed Project will dramatically increase the massing and density on the Project Site, directly adjacent to TDC's properties. The Proposed Project will be too tall. It will contain too many rooms, and attract too many patrons. And, it will be too close to TDC's property line. As a result, the Proposed Project will loom over TDC's property, reduce open space, increase noise, harm the privacy of TDC's tenants, and reduce light by casting shadows onto TDC's property.

Traffic and Parking. The Proposed Project will significantly increase traffic and congestion, and exacerbate on-street parking problems in the immediate vicinity of TDC's properties.

Safety. The Proposed Project will create serious safety hazards for TDC's tenants. The Developers propose to use the rear of the Project Site as the service entrance for the hotel and restaurant operations. This service entrance will be accessed by an extremely narrow driveway at a bend in Comet Place. (See Exhibit A to this letter – which I've annotated to show the location of TDC's property.) The proposed service entrance directly abuts, and is within feet or inches of: (a) the rear entrance for 627 Massachusetts Avenue; (b) the wheelchair access for 627 Massachusetts Avenue; and (c) the sidewalk. (See Exhibit B to this letter.) Given the layout and close quarters, it appears that the Developer's plans will require numerous, delivery trucks to back into the service entrance, and to park on Comet Place – and possibly on the sidewalk itself – in a manner that would block all access to TDC's rear entrance and wheelchair ramp. (Id.) Obviously, this will create very serious dangers to all of TDC's tenants, and is absolutely unacceptable.

These are the principal ways in which the Proposed Project will harm TDC and its tenants, along with others in the community. But, this is not an exhaustive list. Among other things, the Proposed Project is completely out of character with the immediately-surrounding South End and Roxbury neighborhoods. The Proposed Project might fit in just fine in the financial district, with its size, scale and glass addition. But, it is inappropriate for the Project Site.

Michael Sinatra, MPA
Boston Planning & Development Agency
March 8, 2019
Page 3

Thank you in advance for considering TDC's concerns and objections. TDC looks forward to working with the City and the Developers to address these problems. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



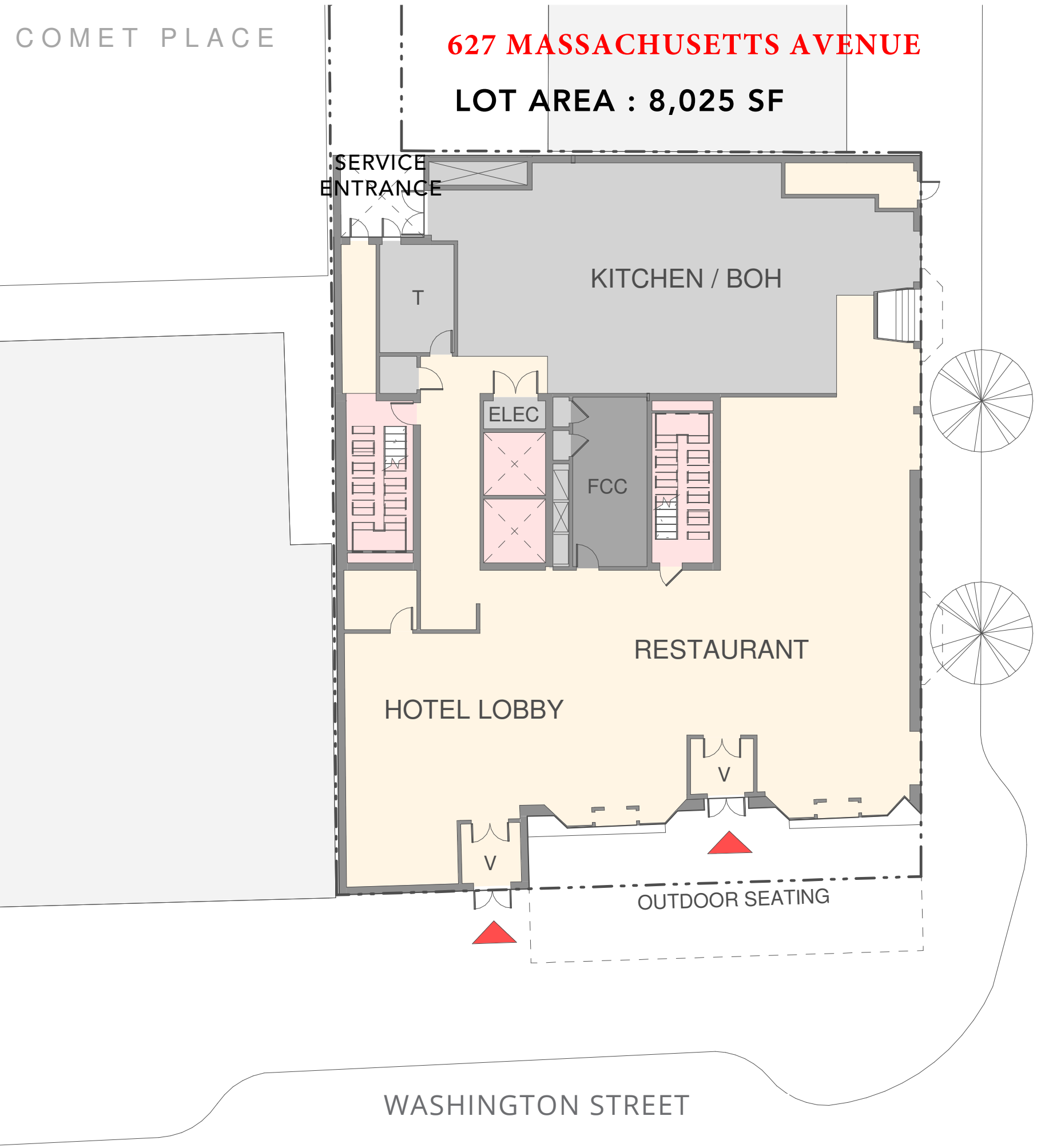
Brian S. Kaplan

cc: City Councilor Kim Janey
Mr. Nicholas Colavito
Mr. Donald Ward
Ms. Arenesse Brown

EXHIBIT A

PLANS

PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR PLAN



PROPOSED TYPICAL LOWER LEVEL

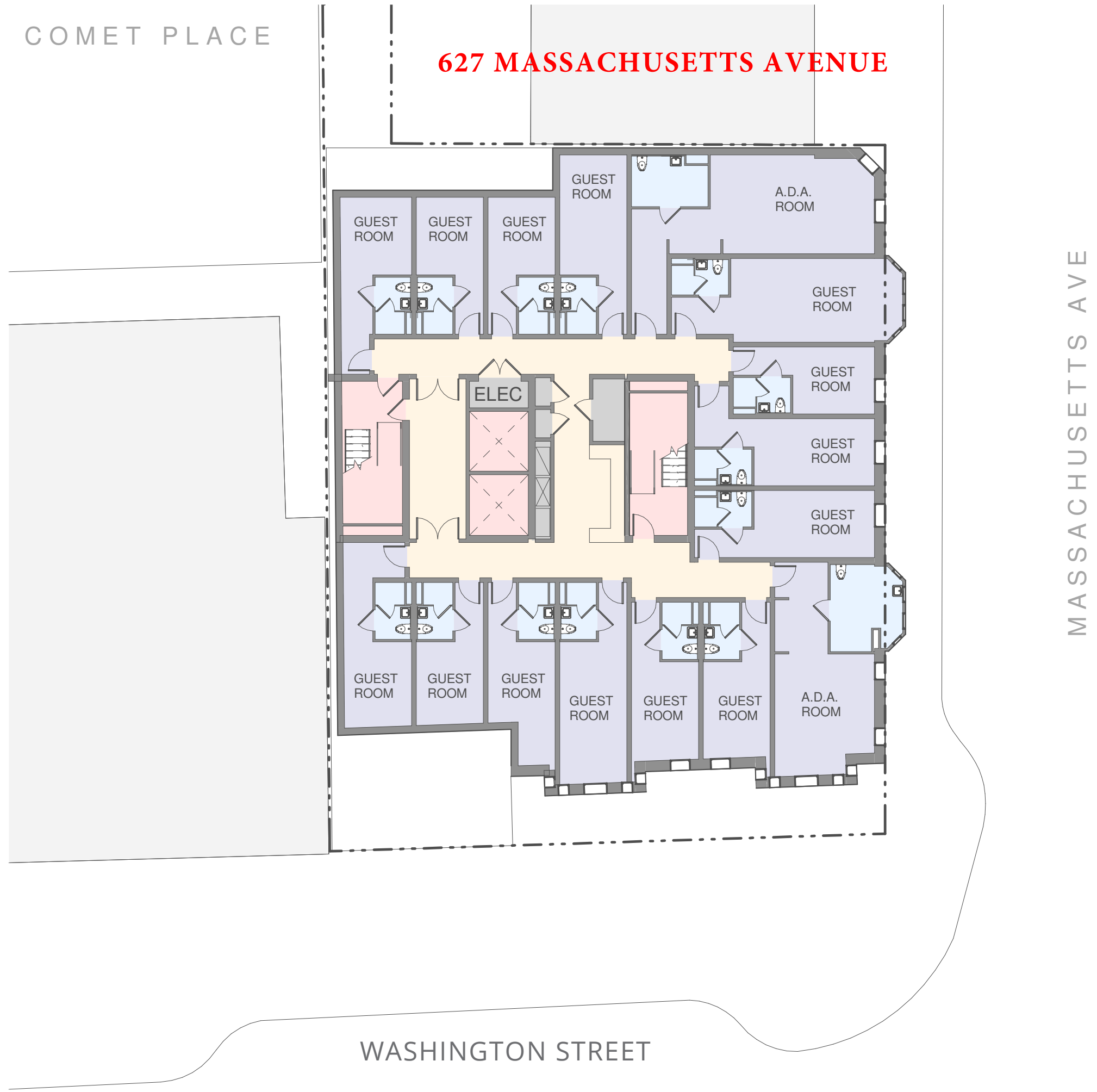


EXHIBIT B



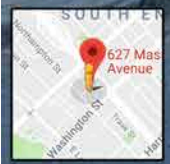
61 Comet Pl
Boston, Massachusetts
Google
Street View - Jul 2017

PROJECT SITE

627 Mass. Avenue

**HOTEL
SERVICE
ENTRANCE**

**REAR ENTRANCE &
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS**



Google



61 Comet Pl
Boston, Massachusetts
Google
Street View - Jul 2017

**PROJECT
SITE**

**SERVICE
ENTRANCE**



**627 Mass. Avenue
REAR ENTRANCE &
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS**



Google



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

Support for Hotel Alexandra development

1 message

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 8:05 AM

To: faisal.sharif@boston.gov, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov

Dear Councilor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata, and Mr. Sinatra:

My name is Raymond Tesi, and I write to you as a concerned citizen of Boston and as a resident of the South End to offer my STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development. The building is currently an eyesore with few prospects. The development into a hotel is an opportunity that should not be missed. Conversion to a thriving business will continue the development of the vibrant South End. Look no further than Bar Lyon. This vibrant restaurant has become a destination for many in the neighborhood, the City and beyond. The Alexandra Hotel fits nicely into the evolution of a neighborhood that has become a desirable place to live, work and raise a family.

I worry that the current proposal will be challenged by those who do not live in the neighborhood, do not understand the needs or wants of those of us that do and have little vision of the future of the South End. Why would someone want to leave a dangerous eyesore in place when it can be developed into a stellar property that will contribute to neighborhood? Between the medical center, the growth of Northeastern, the refurbishing of the Cathedral, the renovation of the brownstones that line our streets and the burgeoning commercial development throughout the neighborhood, the South End is returning to the glory of its past. To reach that promise, buildings that blight the landscape must be rescued. I have chosen the word "rescued" carefully. We do not want demolition followed by building of new buildings. We want to rehabilitate the wonderful architecture of the South End. That architecture is part of the soul of our neighborhood. That architecture makes the South End unique.

My fellow neighbors are extremely excited about the proposed development of this blighted property. We are impressed and encouraged by the design team's vision. I believe the project can be an important anchor to further development in the neighborhood. As our representatives, we want you to make sure our voices are heard. We all want this development. We want this magnificent building to survive. We want the neighborhood to thrive. Please fast-track this much-needed development in our neighborhood. We are counting on you for critical support.

Thank you and Sincerely,

Raymond Tesi

476 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA 02118



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

Support for Hotel Alexandra development

1 message

Nelson Thaemert

Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 6:06 PM

To: Faisa Sharif <faisa.sharif@boston.gov>, nicholas.armata@boston.gov, kim.janey@boston.gov, michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov

Dear Counselor Janey, Ms. Sharif, Mr. Armata and Mr. Sinatra,

My name is Dr. Nelson Thaemert, and I am writing to you as a citizen of Boston and a resident of the South End to offer my strong support for the current proposal for the Hotel Alexandra development.

I have been a resident of the South End for 13 years. During this time, I have seen the constant state of disrepair of the Hotel Alexandra, and like many concerned citizens, I wish for it to be saved. In the last few years, there have been several proposals to develop this property, all of which would save the historic facade before it collapses upon itself. My neighbors and I even attended the community meetings at our local Boston Public Library branch to hear from the prior potential developer. Unfortunately, due to market economics, prior proposals for development have fallen through.

We are now presented with a new proposal to develop this historic but blighted property. Thus far, we have been very impressed with the design team's presentation (even more so than the prior proposal!), and I believe it can become a hallmark building within the neighborhood.

I am concerned that this project can be sidetracked by so many potential obstacles. Turf battles between Roxbury neighborhood activists and those from the South End are either unproductive or overblown — we all want some form of development here — so please hear me when I tell you that we think this project is a good idea!

Interestingly, other citizens have put forward ideas for what should be done with this property. These include:

- Purchase by the city and convert into a giant homeless shelter
- Renovate only to the height of the existing facade
- Generate affordable housing instead of a hotel

In addition, I have heard concerns about what will happen to the businesses that currently occupy the ground floor of the building.

While I respect the opinions for alternatives that have been put forward, these seem grossly impractical. In my opinion, the only way the Hotel Alexandra is going to be saved is through private development, which includes adding significantly to the height of the building in order to generate enough space to justify the expense. Other buildings a few blocks closer to Boston Medical Center exceed the proposed height for this development, so I do not believe that should be an impediment. Likewise, any proposal to use taxpayer funds to convert this into a public service building sounds like a very costly, impractical solution. As for the current businesses in the space, it is a fact of life that there is a natural economic churn when it comes to development, and I am confident that they can find alternative space nearby that suits their needs.

At this point, I believe there is nothing more that I can do as an individual to advocate for this project other than to contact you and voice my support. I trust that all of you, as our local political representative, our neighborhood liason, and our Boston planning and preservation professionals, will hear the voice of citizens like mine. Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sincerely yours,
Nelson Thaemert

WORCESTER SQUARE AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

George Stergios, President c/o 35 Worcester Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02118

February 27, 2019

Mr. Michael Sinatra
Project Manager
Boston Planning & Development Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

RE: Proposed Development: Hotel Alexandra
 1767-1769 Washington Street, Roxbury

Dear Mr. Sinatra:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Worcester Square Neighborhood Association (WSANA) as part of the public comments for the project proposed at 1767-1769 Washington Street. On Tuesday, February 26, 2018, **WSANA voted to support this project with the condition that the requests for mitigation by the Chester Square Neighbors (attached) be sufficiently addressed by the project proponent** and urge the BPDA to require these mitigation measures as conditions to allowing the project to proceed.

WSANA understands that Alexandra Partners LLC is proposing to retain and restore the façade of the existing Hotel Alexandra, and construct a new, approximately 150 room, thirteen-story boutique hotel with ground floor restaurant and café space, and a rooftop level bar/restaurant. The proponents presented the project to WSANA members at two meetings, and it has been discussed and debated several times in our meetings.

Although technically just across the boundary of the adjacent Chester Square neighborhood, this site sits prominently at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Washington Street and is about two blocks from the heart of our association. As a community, we have long looked for revitalization of this example of unique architecture that creates the South End Landmark District. At the corner of a major local and regional intersection, its redevelopment, both short-term during construction and long-term as it starts a new history, will have an impact on the daily lives of people living and working in the area and the local economy. Therefore, this enormous opportunity for bettering the neighborhood and the City must be maximized and negative impacts mitigated to the extent possible.

Chester Square Neighbors requested specific considerations related to transportation, design, construction, and future operation of the project as laid out by the proponents in the Project Notification Form and further described during the public process that our Association also requests as conditional to our support.

Of specific note is the incongruence between the project design and both the South End Landmark standards and criteria and the Boston Zoning Code (most notably, the height and character of the new thirteen-story tower structure). Our membership is concerned with this aspect of the project, as also noted by Chester Square Neighbors and many other members of the public, and any precedent it might set for other redevelopment of historical structures. Our support of this specific project should not be taken as support by our Association of this height and design character for this project or for projects generally. However, the opportunity this particular project presents to move quickly to preserve the façade of the historic structure and

revitalize the corner of this key intersection with a vibrant business cannot be overlooked by the Association.

WSANA supports this project if the attached requests can be accommodated by the project proponents and included in the City's agreement, to the extent possible, allowing the development of the Hotel Alexandra to proceed. We look forward to continuing to work with the City and the developers on this significant and long-awaited project.

Sincerely,

George Stergios
President, Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association