

October 23, 2013

John FitzGerald, Senior Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Redevelopment of the Former Boston Garden Site on Causeway Street

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald,

The Board of Trustees of the Strada234 Condominium Trust, representing the residential unit of the 226/234 Causeway Street building, submits this letter and comments regarding the expanded project notification form for the redevelopment of the former Boston Garden site. Our objections to the project as currently proposed are the following: (1) Height of proposed project (2) Proposed 121A relief (3) Digital signage.

Height of Proposed project

We object to the developer's request for height of 600 feet. The buildings proposed for the project should be restricted to approximately 400 feet (including mechanical equipment on rooftop). This would help to reduce shadows cast on Portal Park, one of the few pieces of green space in the immediate area. The renderings that have been displayed during public meetings dwarf the existing buildings in the neighborhood. Buildings of this height do nothing to improve the neighborhood, have the potential to increase wind impact, and are more in character with the towers in the financial district than a neighborhood such as North Station.

Proposed 121A relief

It is the opinion of the Trustees of Strada234 Condominium Trust that the project should not be considered for zoning exemptions or tax breaks under 121A. In no way is the North Station area a "blighted" location requiring such incentives. Tax subsidies for multi billion dollar corporations to start projects of this size that generate profits for them are inappropriate.

Digital Signage

The proposed signs are not in keeping with the existing neighborhood. Any planned signage should be no larger than 20 feet x 20 feet, should be restricted in operation to hours between 7:00 am and 9:00 pm, and only be viewable from the proposed "champion's way" on the drawings presented during public meetings. Signage of the type proposed is more in the character of Times Square not the growing neighborhood with young families.

Strada 234 Condominium Trust
Board of Trustees

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