

Prof. John L. Renne, Ph.D., AICP
1431 Euterpe St.
New Orleans, LA
70130

John Fitzgerald
Boston Development Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston , Ma 02201-1007

October 23, 2013

Re: Support for the Boston Garden Development Project

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald,

I am writing to express my support for the Boston Garden Development project proposed by Boston Properties and Delaware North at 80 Causeway Street.

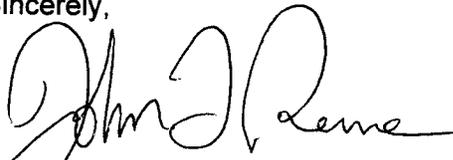
I am an associate professor of urban planning and director of the Merritt C. Becker Jr. Transportation Institute at the University of New Orleans. I also serve as a senior visiting research associate at the University of Oxford. My work focuses on sustainable, transit-oriented development (TOD). I am the editor of *Transit Oriented Development: Making It Happen* (Ashgate 2009) and *Transport Beyond Oil: Policy Choices for a Multimodal Future* (Island Press 2013). I have worked extensively on TOD projects and studies across the United States and Australia.

The proposed project will provide significant benefits by promoting smart growth, TOD and sustainable development by creating a front door to the TD Garden, and improving and promoting pedestrian rather than vehicular traffic. The project will create an exciting mixed-use development project on what is today an asphalt – black top parking lot. The project will transform a blighted area into a vibrant district. This is one of New England's most important transportation hubs.

It is vital that TODs are approved expeditiously so they can move forward in order for cities to become more sustainable. As my research demonstrates, such projects have real benefits to local residents by creating new jobs and increasing the tax base along with a host of other economic, environmental and social benefits.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. John L. Renne, Ph.D., AICP
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