



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE GENERAL COURT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1063

October 24, 2013

John FitzGerald, Senior Project Manager
One City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02201

RE: Boston Garden Project

Dear Mr. FitzGerald:

We are writing in connection to the development of 80 Causeway Street as proposed by Delaware North Companies and Boston Properties. We applaud the developers for pushing this project forward and to bring positive growth and activation to Causeway Street, an area of the city that has become blighted. We hope that this development will not only improve the area around the current Boston Garden, but that it will also improve the surrounding communities as well. Through careful development and keeping an open dialogue with the City and the community, we believe that this project can accomplish that.

For the past several decades Causeway Street has become an area that is not particularly appealing given the lack of safety and desirability to residents and visitors alike. The project at 80 Causeway Street has the potential to breathe new life into this location and to have a positive impact on both the street and the city as a whole.

The project includes 235,000 square feet of retail space, offering the developers ample opportunity to address multiple needs for both patrons of the Garden and the residents of the surrounding communities. The developer's decision to include a movie cinema is an excellent choice that will help liven up Causeway Street in a positive manner. The need for an affordable supermarket in the downtown area has grown dramatically in the last decade. As more and more people call downtown home, we are left with fewer and fewer affordable options to buy food and other essential items. Trinity Financial has a commitment to include a supermarket in their project at One Canal Street unless another location is identified within 18 months after the Trinity Project is completed. The 80 Causeway Street site is ideally suited for an affordable and accessible supermarket that will greatly enhance the quality of life for the residents of the surrounding neighborhoods. We would ask that the developers give priority to including a supermarket in the plan.

While the retail space included in the project will have undoubted positive effects for Causeway Street, we are concerned that any potential restaurants or other food venues on the site will take away from restaurants in the North End and other surrounding areas that rely upon business from Garden events. With that in mind, we ask that any restaurants or other food venues that will be placed at 80 Causeway Street be distinct and of a different nature from the unique establishments in the North End

We are pleased that there will be no substantial additional shadow cast by the project and wind will also not be an issue according to the studies conducted. We are also glad that the City has been working with the developers to address potential vehicle and pedestrian traffic issues that will arise as a result of this project. Keany Square, the intersection of Causeway and North Washington Streets, needs to be addressed in the immediate future for numerous reasons. We are glad that the City has been working on this problem through the Cross Roads Initiative, and we respectfully ask that the issues with this intersection, and others in the area, be resolved prior to the commencement of construction at 80 Causeway Street.

Again, we are happy that this project is moving forward. We are confident that with these comments the proposed development at 80 Causeway Street will be a positive for both the immediate area around Causeway Street and the surrounding neighborhoods. Thank you for your consideration and if you have any further questions on this matter please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,



ANTHONY PETRUCCELLI
State Senator



AARON MICHLEWITZ
State Representative
Third Suffolk District