

No to Normandy/Twining Tower Development

Hunter Aldrich <hunteraldrich@gmail.com>

Sun 5/17/2015 10:38 PM

City Clerk Agenda

To:City Council <CityCouncil@CambridgeMA.GOV>; Lopez, Donna <dlopez@cambridgema.gov>;

Dear Mayor Maher and City Councilors:

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the approval of the Normandy/Twining Tower development petition. No more luxury towers without a citywide plan. No more uncontrolled parcel-by-parcel development. No approval of large luxury housing developments that exclude lower-income residents of Cambridge and exclusively benefit developers and the wealthy.

You must approve the implementation of a City-wide Master Planning process that is limited to the construction of affordable housing and is conducted in a democratic, community-based manner with transparency and continual oversight. The Planning Board should not approve any new or current development proposals or international investments in land and construction during this planning process.

Further development in the Fresh Pond/Alewife area will only exacerbate the current traffic problems, degrade the natural environment, and overpopulate this region of the city. We have our neighborhoods and communities utterly transformed and degraded as the result of a deliberate epidemic of over-building of unaffordable i.e. luxury housing from developers that have no ties and make no investment in the Cambridge community during the past 10 years.

Finally, the construction of multiple large buildings that have been built in the flood zones in this area will contribute enormously to environmental degradation over the long run. They are huge mistakes that were approved by the city's Planning Board whose members have defied the voice of the majority of residents who have repeatedly and vehemently expressed their opposition to the poor planning and rampant development of luxury housing in our area and throughout Cambridge during the past many years.

Please heed the voices of opposition from the residents of this city. Do not allow the Normandy/Twining Tower to be built.

Thank you,

Hunter Aldrich

1 Field Street

Fresh Pond area resident

Cambridge, MA 02138

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