

FW: Volpe Transportation Site - Open Space (Clerk, please place letter in Official Record of Council Meeting)

Lopez, Donna

Thu 2/5/2015 10:05 AM

Inbox

To: Creedon, Paul <pcreedon@cambridgema.gov>;

Categories: Communications for Agenda

From: Paul Kroner [mailto:pkroner.gm@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:10 AM

To: City Council

Cc: Lopez, Donna; Paden, Liza; City Manager; Murphy, Brian; Dash, Stuart

Subject: Volpe Transportation Site - Open Space (Clerk, please place letter in Official Record of Council Meeting)

Dear Councilor,

I write in support of the Policy Order (O-29 of February 2, 2015) sponsored by Councilor Carlone requesting the "*...City Manager work with all relevant City Staff to revise the proposed zoning for the Volpe site to include an option for a 7.5 acre public park as originally planned...*"

I was disappointed to hear that the proposal for redevelopment of the Volpe Center proposes to decrease the amount of open space from 7.5 to 2.5 acres. Once again the developers are looking to maximize profits at the expense of those of us who live and work in this part of the city.

This project presents a wonderful opportunity to create a vibrant public space in the lines of The Boston Common or Central Park, which have proven to be visionary uses of open space that everyone benefits from. Kendall Square needs open space where people can have a reprieve from the density of all the development that surrounds us.

Remember, the Volpe site was originally taken by eminent domain and belongs to the taxpayers by way of the federal government. The mission of the government is not to maximize profits but to serve the public interest. I contend that a large park on a portion of the site does exactly that. And since the site is already zoned for 7.5 acres of open space, the City is not taking anything away from the owner.

This is incredible opportunity to create a space that will give Kendall Square the heart and soul it currently lacks.

Thank you for your public service.

Respectfully,
Paul Kroner

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