

From: [Torgun Austin](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Lopez, Donna](#)
Subject: The Volpe Center
Date: Friday, May 29, 2015 4:58:04 PM

Dear Council:

I walk my dog all over the city, choosing a new neighborhood every day. This winter, areas on Binney have been blocked off due to construction, and the building spree is not over:

A tall building was just approved for Central Square, and another "taller than Manhattan" building is being contemplated for the Volpe site. These tall buildings featuring a preponderance of offices with some studio apartments and a few three bedroom units, with no mention of playgrounds, will be ill suited to house families with children, rich or poor.

Before permitting this next building on the Volpe parcel, please consider how out of scale such a structure would be. Granted, there are tall buildings in the neighborhood, but nothing like the proposed mega building. The shadow effect of tall buildings is a serious matter for neighbors.

I am concerned about the added traffic that will ensue when the new buildings on the Volpe site and in Central Square are occupied. Most of our major East Cambridge Streets are two lanes in each direction, some times to allow on street parking for residents in the third lane. Most of the workers in the proposed buildings will drive their cars to and from work however much we wish for them to take the T or the bus.

I encourage you to do a new traffic study, including Main, Broadway, Cambridge, the Charles and Longfellow Bridges, and Hampshire Street to get an updated flavor of our current state of traffic at commuter times.

Sincerely Yours,
Torgun Austin
28 Bristol Street
torgunaustin@hotmail.com

