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Drury, Margaret

From: Karen Friedman [kettashome@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2011 7:01 PM
To: City Council
Cc: Drury, Margaret
Subject: Bishop Petition

Dear City Council,

I am writing asking for your support of the Bishop Petition.

I have lived in the North Cambridge neighborhood for over 23 years continuously, and in Cambridge for a total of 26 years. I have raised two children here and have long appreciated the community of the neighborhood, and the vast resources that the city has to offer, including the public schools where my children were students. I am a firm believer in keeping the neighborhood (and all other city neighborhoods) livable, vibrant and affordable (the last point is long gone, and I know that were I not already a resident of longstanding, could not afford to live here). And in trying to help maintain the neighborhood of people and families who know each other and watch out for each other, I am concerned at the high level of planned development slated for this neighborhood that is not in keeping with the neighborhood. As is true throughout the city, we live in a very compressed and condensed space of mostly single and 2 or 3-family houses, and primarily depend upon street parking, since many of us do not have driveways. In particular, I am concerned at the level of growth planned, especially regarding the project planned for the Fawcett Oil site, with a 4-story building of over 100 units. I am pleased to know that at least at the other 2 developments planned - the Cambridge Lumber and JH Emerson sites - there is a reduction in the number of units originally planned. There have been many condo and apartment buildings built throughout area over the last several years, and I believe that simply adding new housing in every space potentially available is not in the interest of maintaining a safe, community neighborhood. The costs of losing the quality of our neighborhood are too high to imagine.

Please support the Bishop Petition, and help our neighborhood maintain its neighborliness.

Thanks,

Karen Friedman
59 Dudley Street