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Lopez, Donna

From: Dara Glass [daraglass@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2012 5:19 PM
To: Davis, Henrietta
Cc: City Council; Lopez, Donna
Subject: Still NO to Forest City

Ms. Davis and City Council:

This special meeting is an affront to Cambridge residents. It is time to stop pandering to developers and time to start listening to your constituents.

Sincerely,
Dara Glass
Edmunds St.

On Tue, Jul 31, 2012 at 3:02 PM, Davis, Henrietta <hdavis@cambridgema.gov> wrote:

Thank you for your email expressing your opinion and concerns regarding the Forest City Zoning Petition.

Right now, without needing City Council permission, Forest City can build up to 80 feet and just under 139,000 square feet of space. They would not be required to provide ground floor retail or other benefits for the community. They are asking for an additional 15 feet in height and an additional 107,000 square feet to be used for lab space and ground floor retail.

Originally Forest City also proposed a high rise residential structure. I'm pleased to report that Forest City has removed this portion of the proposal, a residential tower at the corner of Sidney Street and Green Street that would have abutted the Mass Ave park and cast some shadows on Jill Brown-Rhone Park.

The most important news is that the Mayor's Office is now working with representatives of Forest City and the Chair of the Ordinance Committee to address housing needs in other ways:

1. We are hoping Forest City will extend affordability on approximately over 150 units of housing in University Park by 50 years. The units are now set to lose their affordable status starting in the next decade.
2. It is also proposed the Forest City provide 20 new units of affordable housing, possibly in connection with a new housing development.

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I appreciate that this had been a difficult and complex process for the community. In order to continue and possibly complete negotiations with Forest City, I have scheduled a special City Council meeting at City Hall for next Monday August 6 at 7:30 PM. The public is welcome to attend.

-Henrietta

Henrietta Davis

Mayor, City of Cambridge