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Lopez, Donna

From: Pam Matz [pjminca@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2012 8:50 AM
To: Davis, Henrietta
Cc: City Council; Lopez, Donna
Subject: Plan for a Mixed-Use Central Square for Cambridge, Don't give it away to developers

Dear Mayor Davis:

I gave you my first place vote in the last City Council election. Now you need you to re-earn my support and that of other voters concerned for the continuing existence of Cambridge as a community that supports diverse residents.

1. Postponing the Forest City vote without warning or explanation undermined the City Council's due process and showed lack of respect for the opinions of Cambridge residents. **Make the process of considering Forest City responsive and transparent to Cambridge residents.**
2. The 150 expiring use or never built housing units under consideration represent the failure of Forest City to carry out their previous obligations. **Withdraw, reject, or vote down the current petition, and reconsider only after Forest City has carried out their prior responsibilities.**
3. The oversize, out-of-scale biotech building, if built, will last 75-125 years. **Wait until the the K2C2 process has matured, and the Forest City failure on the housing front can be properly vetted and corrected.**

Central Square is the heart of Cambridge. If you sell it, every Cambridge resident loses.

Pam Matz
Cambridge resident since 1983

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.

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