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Lopez, Donna

From: C. Shipley [mc.shipley@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:58 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Lopez, Donna
Subject: Please say NO to Forest City Petition - for the record

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Please vote NO on July 30 to the Forest City Corporation's effort to gain City Council approval for their upzoning Petition.

Forest City Real Estate developers are pursuing their plan to build an oversize biotech/office building on the All-Asia Mass. Ave. site near Lafayette Square, without waiting for the report of the City's year-long K2C2 Central Square Advisory Committee.

Forest City requests a building almost double the allowable square feet, including a "penthouse" for mechanicals on the roof rising to 125 feet, higher than the adjacent NECCO building and the hotel on the corner.

The project offers nothing to the surrounding neighborhoods – no open space, no community room, no summer internships, no job set asides. It is assumed the surrounding neighborhood will be subjected to many hundreds of additional auto and T trips.

The too-tall building will negatively impact Jill Brown-Rhone Park – one of the few public open spaces between Harvard and Kendall Square – reducing sun and sky during much of the year.

The wind tunnel effect on Mass. Ave. will be increased by the addition of this too tall building built to the sidewalk. Such winds would not only be unpleasant for pedestrians walking on Mass. Ave., but the strong winds will have a damaging effect on trees in the area.

Please do not approve this unacceptable height request.

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