



JOSH ZAKIM
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR
DISTRICT 8

January 6, 2017


Brian Golden, Director
Boston Planning and Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Director Golden,

I am writing today to express my dismay at the total farce of a “public meeting” which your agency put on last night in support of Millennium’s Winthrop Square Tower proposal. Several hundred residents on both sides of the issue came to what they believed would be a public meeting during which they would be able to offer comments and hear from one another. I was similarly under the impression that this format would be used - not least because your agency’s own website identified the meeting as such (see attached). We were all therefore surprised and disturbed that this was not the case. In fact this was not a “public meeting” at all but an “open house” event staffed by the BPDA and developer which offered no opportunity for opponents of the project to present their views to the other attendees. The prevailing comment I’ve received from residents in attendance is that it was a waste of their time, and I agree.

These sorts of one-sided “public meetings” do not inspire confidence in your agency’s objectivity or in the development review process. I will also take this opportunity to reiterate my request that the developer or the BPDA present alternative proposals for the Winthrop Square site that do not violate state law.

Sincerely,



Josh Zakim

cc: Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Boston City Council
Rep. Byron Rushing
Rep. Jay Livingstone
Rep. Aaron Michlewitz
Sen. Will Brownsberger
Sen. Joe Boncore
Millennium Partners

Boston City Hall - One City Hall Square - Boston, MA 02201
josh.zakim@boston.gov





News & Calendar

115 Winthrop Square Public Meeting

News & Updates

Calendar

Jan 05, 2017

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Rss

Contact Name:

Christopher Tracy

Contact Email Address:

Christopher.Tracy@Boston.gov

Contact Phone:

617,918,4259

Type:

Public Meeting

Location:

101 Federal Street
29th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Description:

BPDA staff have decided to reschedule the Second Public Meeting (originally scheduled for December 19) to after the holiday season. **This meeting will now take place on Thursday, January 5 at 6:30 PM at 101 Federal Street, 29th Floor. The public comment period is also being extended, based on community request, until January 16, 2017.**

Related

Project(s)

115 Winthrop Square

Neighborhoods

Downtown