

Brighton Neighbors United

Boston, October 22, 2008

By e-mail mark.ciommo@cityofboston.gov

City Councilor Mark Ciommo
1 City Hall Square, Suite 550
Boston, MA 02201-2013

Dear Councilor Ciommo:

Thank you very much for meeting with Brighton Neighbors United (BNU) Monday evening. We sincerely appreciate your taking the time to hear our concerns regarding threats to the well-being of this neighborhood, particularly those associated with Boston College's Institutional Master Plan.

BNU members valued the opportunity to:

- Formally introduce our group to you, sharing with you our mission and the widespread support BNU has received from Brighton residents;
- Share with you our continued expectation that, as our elected representative, you remain committed to representing the interests of the majority of the community and to realizing your campaign promises.
- Hear directly from you that your expectation for the next steps in this process is for BC to propose significant changes to their IMP at the October 29, 2008 BRA meeting and for the community to have sufficient time (which if not already allowed for by the BRA, you were willing to advocate for on behalf of the community) to review and comment upon. In essence, what we heard was that your view is that the Article 80 process is and will be followed.

As you strive to represent this community, BNU expects that you will consider our main requests, namely:

1. That current zoning of the former Archdiocese site and 2000 Commonwealth Avenue be maintained, thus guaranteeing that this community is protected from disruptive uses such as large-scale sports stadiums and an overwhelming inflow of student housing near residential areas.
2. That you will support our request for a direct meeting with Mayor Menino.
3. That you will proactively join BNU's efforts to obtain a written response from Mr. Kairos Shen to our letter of September 22, 2008, when BNU requested clarification on Mr. Shen's proposal to expedite approval of isolated components of the IMP.
4. That you will stand with BNU in supporting the process outlined in Article 80, a process in which the community has invested many years, and that should not, at this late stage in the process, be rushed to its conclusion.

Unfortunately, a majority of attendees left the meeting with the impression that they were still not being heard and certainly not supported and that the prevailing attitude of yours and the City's is to find ways to appease BC. However, we still hope that yesterday's meeting marks the beginning of a mutually cooperative relationship between your office and BNU. We look

forward to your advice and support as we continue to work to preserve Brighton's residential character, and to improve the quality of life for all of its residents.

Regards,

Ram Das Rao and Abigail Furey (for Brighton Neighbors United)