

100 Fore Street 86 Newbury WEX

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Jul 10, 2018 9:47 AM

Posted in group: **Planning and Urban Development**

Dear Planning Board members, City Council members and staff,

The requested zoning changes to waive or revise height limits and add nearly 1,000 parking spaces in the India Street area defy description. Why do we have zoning rules that protect us all and make it possible to live in close proximity and in relative harmony when they can be easily circumvented? These property owners knew what the rules were when they purchased and planned their developments. Hold them accountable to the rules. Please, DO NOT grant the waivers.

The idea of adding 950 parking spaces is astonishing. Just 3-4 years ago, when the planning board was considering the contract zone for the new 400 seat theater at the St. Lawrence, neighbors objected saying the additional 200 cars per performance would be an issue without additional parking and the project was approved anyway saying the city's strategy is to NOT make parking more available and to encourage public transportation. What is good for the goose is good for the gander. Please do not approve these waivers. Let them take public transportation. Perhaps they can "subsidize" the Metro like the St. Lawrence promised to do.

Respectfully,

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The Russian dissident and chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov drew upon long familiarity with that process when he tweeted: "The point of modern propaganda isn't only to misinform or push an agenda. It is to exhaust your critical thinking, to annihilate truth."