Date: November 20, 2012

Subject: Patty Chen, et al. Zoning Petition

Recommendation: The Planning Board recommends ADOPTION of the Petition.

To the Honorable, the City Council,

The Planning Board recommends adoption of this Petition, which would amend the requirements of the Central Square Overlay District to include the section of Prospect Street between Massachusetts Avenue and Bishop Allen Drive within the set of streets on which bars and alcohol-serving entertainment venues may locate their entrances. Entrances to such uses are currently allowed only on Massachusetts Avenue or Main Street.

It is the Board’s view that this section of Prospect Street is well-suited to allow these types of uses, given that there are no nearby residential abutters and that bars and entertainment venues currently exist along the block. The addition of similar uses at that location would not be detrimental to the area, and may indeed help to enliven the western side of the street, which currently lacks ground-floor activity at night.

Respectfully submitted for the Planning Board,

Hugh Russell, Chair.