

City of Cambridge  
Department of Public Works

*Owen O'Riordan, Commissioner*

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**November 4, 2021**

TO: Planning Board  
  
FROM: Katherine F. Watkins, PE  
City Engineer

**RE: Revitalization of Jefferson Park AHO Submission**

We are in receipt of the AHO Design Review Submission Documents for the Revitalization of Jefferson Park Federal, dated September 24, 2021.

The DPW supports the project and acknowledges that CHA and their consultant team have demonstrated a general understanding our Department's requirements for development projects and have indicated a willingness to work with the DPW to meet the requirements and to address our concerns. With the understanding that the project will be subject to a thorough and complete engineering review at the time of the Building Permit Application, we anticipate continuing to work with the Applicant. Items discussed with the Applicant related to our purview, are summarized below.

**Stormwater Management:**

The development will be required to obtain a Stormwater Control Permit prior to the issuance of a Building Permit which will include a detailed review of the proposed stormwater management system, plans for erosion and sedimentation control during construction and the plans for long term operation and maintenance of the system. As part of our discussions with the Civil Consultant, they have advanced their civil site plan and stormwater management system design to level that has demonstrated that the project will meet the standards and requirements of the Permit related to stormwater quality and quantity.

**Climate Change / Resiliency:**

The Design Review documents includes discussion related to Resiliency and Sustainable Design in the narrative of the document. The project parcels are free flooding occurrences, as mapped in the City's current FloodViewer. The project still discusses measures to elevate and protect mechanical systems and does not propose any inhabitable spaces below grade which will further protect the development from any potential flood occurrence.

Consistent with all new development in the City, the DPW will be looking for the project to contribute to expanding the tree canopy to help combat heat island concerns and to provide shade for comfort of the residents of the development. The DPW will continue to work the CHA team to ensure that all opportunities for increased plantings are evaluated.

**Public Right of Way:**


DPW will review and evaluate all proposed work and impacts in the public right of way, as the design is developed. Connections to both public and private utilities as well as all proposed disruption in the public right of way shall be reviewed as part of the Building Permit and construction permit processes.

**Other Considerations:**

- The increase in sewer flow, as outlined in the Design Review Submission, is more than the 15,000 gpd trigger for I/I Mitigation. The project will be required to mitigate this additional flow at a rate of 4:1, per the State Requirement.

In summary, as related to the interests of the DPW the proposal will result in improved conditions over the current conditions of the site. We look forward to working with the CHA and other City Departments on this project. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns related to the comments or information provided above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Katherine F. Watkins".

Katherine F. Watkins, P.E.  
City Engineer