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Newton City Clerk

Dear Councilor Jay Harney:

RE: Washington Place Project NOV 22 AM 8:47

Newtonville could use some updating and I think that the Washington Place proposal currently on the table before the Council poses a good opportunity to do just that. Businesses in that area must be having an increasingly difficult time turning a profit despite the thousands of commuters and residents that pass through every day. The commercial buildings known as the "Orr Block" are run down, dirty and falling apart. Public infrastructure in the area severely needs some updating as well. With some reasonable additions to the neighborhood like Washington Place we would likely see a complete revitalization of the entire area, bringing prosperity and new opportunity to Newtonville.

Washington Place will also bring a substantial number of new parking spaces to help satisfy the demand for new residents and commuters and the small number of existing visitors to the area. It seems that traffic management upgrades will also help mitigate any additional cars on the road due to the project, and given its proximity to the Newtonville commuter rail station, transit orientation is another critical benefit. This project makes sense and I hope to see it approved as soon as possible.

Thanks for your consideration,

~~David A. Olson~~
31 Willow Rd