

Councilor Jacob Auchincloss
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Paul Turano
Owner
Cook Restaurant
825 Washington Street
Newton, MA 02460

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Newton City Clerk
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David A. Olson, CNO
Newton, MA 02459

Dear Councilor Albright,

I was thrilled when I learned that "Washington Place" was being put forward to replace the old Orr Block right next to my restaurant on Washington Street. The current buildings situated on the corner are old and decrepit and are not attracting new residents (and customers) to the area. New customers living in such close proximity of my business will be sure to bring a lot of new people into the restaurant for lunch and dinner. This is exactly the type of development that small businesses in Newtonville need and will certainly prosper from.

I am also excited that the development is focusing on bringing some much-needed workforce housing to Newton. The middle class in Newton is slowly but surely being pushed out of town by rising housing costs. Washington Place will address this problem by offering an unprecedented 25% of all rental units at affordable rates. This is good for Newton's middle class and good for business. As a small business owner, I hope that the Newton City Council will enable this project to move forward and revitalize this important part of Newtonville. Thank you.

Best wishes,



Paul Turano