

Adi and Gidon Lissai
132A Coolidge st.
Brookline, MA 02446

December 8, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing regarding the proposed 40B at 455 Harvard Street in Brookline, MA. Our family lives in the adjacent street. Since our street is a one way traffic, we pass through Thorndike st to access Harvard st. I have many concerns about this building site, which I have outlined below.

1. The proposed building has minimal setback from the street and from the abutting house. This is problematic for two main reasons:
 - a. Since the lot is at an angle, the proposed building will almost completely block the visibility into the street (traffic coming from Commonwealth Av) making it impossible to enter Harvard st. without risking other cars and pedestrians.
 - b. The proposed building covers almost the entire lot, which currently includes a large amount of open space. In addition, the proposed 4 story building is not in keeping with any of the other buildings in the immediate area and will completely change the architectural landscape of the area.
2. The proposed building includes commercial space, adding to the surplus of existing vacant commercial spaces in the neighborhood. Research shows that vacant properties are associated with increased rates of crime and violence. Thus, I am concerned with the potential adverse effect on personal safety. Instead, the developer can offer ground level parking.
3. The proposed building includes stacked parking outside the building. In addition to the increased noise, I am also concern with the fact that these mechanics will be unsupervised, at street level, and within reach of children who may attempt climbing or operating them. This does not seem to be an appropriate choice for a building that directly abuts a residential neighborhood.
4. There are currently 6 different 40B proposals within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of each other in the Coolidge Corner neighborhood. I understand the need to grow and offer affordable living, but I also think that good principles of urban and community planning should not be ignored. A sudden, unplanned for influx of buildings and residents over a short period of time may be devastating to the community. Therefore, I would like to ask that in addition to other factors, the cumulative impact of all pending 40B proposals on the Coolidge Corner community will also be taken into account.

Sincerely,
Adi and Gidon Lissai