

**From:**adrienne Shishko <email address redacted>  
**Sent:**Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:53 PM  
**To:**Maria Morelli <mmorelli@brooklinema.gov>  
**Subject:**500 Harvard st - submission of comments

Hello Maria,

As a tax-paying resident living on Russell St , I am very concerned about the impact this project will have on my family's safety and the value of my property as the project is currently conceived. I strongly request changes to the design as follows:

1. The proposed number of stories should be limited to 4 stories in total. There is no residential building within eye sight of this location, in Brookline, that is taller than 4 stories. A 6-story building in this location would be an eye sore. The building height should be consistent with the surrounding Brookline neighborhood, not compared to buildings a mile away on Beacon Street but compared to the immediate neighborhood.
2. The building should have fewer units, it currently represents the same number of units as the equivalent of half the length of one of our streets – a significant increase in local traffic, use of our Coolidge Park, and overall pollution – all without any corresponding expansion or improvements to the local area to absorb the increases.
3. The garage entrance should be on Harvard Street, not Kenwood Street as proposed. The building's address in on Harvard Street, the neighborhood should not suffer the impact of locating the garage on Kenwood; namely the increase in traffic from the 500 Harvard St residents as well as the taxis and Uber/Lifts they use whose objective is only to race through our pedestrian-friendly streets just to get back to Harvard Street. The speed bumps on Kenwood St were installed BECAUSE of cars racing down Kenwood to get to other streets and even with the speed bumps the contractors, and taxi/Uber/Lyfts still run over them as if they were not there, endangering the pedestrians ranging from children to aging adults.
4. The lower façade on Harvard and Kenwood streets should stop at 3 stories, not vault above every other building around it and present a massive imposing face to the public and nearby residents. While some may object to the stories of brick that nearby 455 Harvard presents, it nonetheless sets a standard for new construction in the surrounding area – giving the visual impression that the main part of the building stops at 3 stories (consistent with local buildings/homes), with a fourth floor covered in a different material so as to be less imposing.
5. Top floor set back needs to be further, such as 10 feet from the façade of the lower floors. The rationale is the same as point #4 above.
6. Green space is being lost and must be replaced. 500 Harvard Street used to have a tree and bushes on it's plot, of which the current owner/developers cut down and removed. An equivalent green space on the property needs to be created at ground level (not on the roof).

Thank you,

Adrienne Shishko  
56 Russell st