

25 February 2014

Dear Mr. Russell and Members of the Board;

I respectfully submit my concerns regarding the future of the Sullivan Courthouse, in the hope and expectation that your body will make the wise and far-sighted decision to do what is in the best interest of our neighborhood. I have resided at 109 Thorndike Street since 1992.

What was an abominable violation of this neighborhood when constructed (“justified” by public ownership) can not now be conscionably transferred into the private domain. Your fellow residents here in East Cambridge demand your responsible representation of our interests.

Cambridge City coffers have overflowed with tax revenues generated through extremely dense commercial development of our neighborhood. It is time you, our representatives and governing body, protect our interests and heed one of our greatest grievances over which you have control. Allow us to rid this blight on our otherwise handsome, historic, and residential neighborhood.

Redeployment of this monstrosity will not only perpetuate but aggravate very negative influences on quality of life in our area:

- The building has created a major wind tunnel on one of our finest residential streets;
- Perpetual shade is created in a large zone on our otherwise sunny and uniformly (zoning conforming) low-rise neighborhood;
- Traffic in and through a delicate residential neighborhood already burdened with burgeoning traffic jams resulting from the development of Kendall Square will only be increased with any redeveloped Sullivan Courthouse;
- Parking, already a nightmare for many of our residents, will only become worse;
- Interjection of increased massive residential or commercial activity into our community can not be perceived to have any impact that is not detrimental to the quality of our neighborhood;
- Light, noise and sound pollution will surely be a by-product of any increased activity, and 24/7.

Please do the right thing. If you are unable to reconstruct the wonderful historic buildings, appropriate to this neighborhood, that were leveled to make way for the construction of this public nuisance, please exercise your judgment and authority to do what is in the near and certain long term interest of the City of Cambridge by blocking the opportunity of private capital to perpetuate and magnify the negative impact of this building on our neighborhood and (hopefully FAIR) city.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Keppelman
109 Thorndike Street
Cambridge