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Dear Cambridge Planning Board,

With the perspective of decades, there's general acknowledgement across the City and State that the Sullivan Courthouse building should never have been built. It was forced onto the East Cambridge community decades ago through a process now regarded by most to have been corrupt and illegitimate. Now a new generation of East Cambridge residents is again being forced to accept a building that none of us want.

The short story is actually very simple: the State is demanding such a high sale price from the developer that the developer finds itself forced to repurpose the **full bulk and height** of the existing building to turn a profit. But this bulk and height don't make sense – they never made sense – in our modest residential neighborhood.

People seem to regard this as a done deal – the Courthouse is there and we're stuck with it. But dear Planning Board members, you have the power to help us shape the future of the site! Please seize the golden opportunity in front of us and **DENY SP Application #288**, and all subsequent applications, until the proposed development brings the site's use into conformity with existing zoning.

**We urge you to reject this fatally flawed proposal and send the State and the developers back to the drawing board.**

Sincerely,

Seth Teller  
Neighborhood Association of East Cambridge (NAEC)

