Boston
Groundwater Trust

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September 4th, 2018

Tim Czerwienski, AICP, Project Manager
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007

Subject: 60 Kilmarnock Street Expanded Project Notification Form (EPNF) Comments

Dear Mr. Czerwienski:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 60 Kilmarnock Street Expanded Project Notification Form (EPNF) located in the Fenway. The Boston Groundwater Trust was established by the Boston City Council to monitor groundwater levels in sections of Boston where the integrity of building foundations is threatened by low groundwater levels and to make recommendations for solving the problem. Therefore my comments are limited to groundwater related issues.

The project is located in the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD) established under Article 32 of the Zoning Code. As stated in the document and confirmed via phone conversation with the proponent's Geotechnical Engineer, the project will be designed and constructed to comply with the requirements of Article 32.

Compliance with the GCOD requires both the installation of a recharge system and a demonstration that the project cannot cause a reduction in groundwater levels on site or on adjoining lots. As stated in the document, the planned foundation construction will be conducted inside the limits of an excavation support system installed around the basement limits. The excavation support system will be installed as a cut off wall within the underlying clay layer and will be relatively impermeable to maintain groundwater levels. Depending on the final building loads, the new building loads may be supported on shallow spread footings bearing in the top of the Marine Clay following the installation of ground improvement or on deep foundations deriving their support in the underlying Glacial Till or Bedrock. The basement walls will consist of cast-in place concrete walls with waterproofing. In addition, the document also states that temporary construction dewatering will be required within the limits of the support of excavation system during excavation for the below grade space. Intermittent pumping will be used as needed to allow for construction in-the-dry for the below grade parking level.

The proposed construction is not anticipated to have adverse effects (lowering) of short-term or long-term groundwater levels within the vicinity of the site because construction of the below grade will require only minor dewatering for temporary, minor periods of time within the limits of the excavation, to facilitate excavation in the dry. Primarily, the dewatering will remove water draining from soils to be excavated.

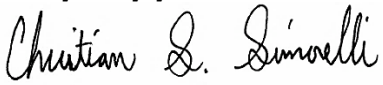
The proponent's Geotechnical Engineer confirmed via phone conversation that the above design is still very much in the concept phase and they will update the Trust on the final design specifications.

Before the GCOD zoning approval can be put in place, the proponent must provide the BPDA and the Trust a letter stamped by a professional engineer registered in Massachusetts that details how it will accomplish what is stated in the document and meets the GCOD requirement for no reduction in groundwater levels on site or on adjoining lots.

As stated in the document, a program of monitoring existing observation wells located in the vicinity of the site will be conducted prior to and during construction to document groundwater levels. The Project team shall coordinate with the Trust and confirm which observation wells will be monitored and reported. The groundwater level data should be furnished to the Trust and the Agency on a weekly basis.

I look forward to continuing to work with the proponent and the Agency to assure that this project can have only positive impacts on area groundwater levels.

Very truly yours,



Christian Simonelli
Executive Director

CC: Kathleen Pederson, BPDA
Maura Zlody, EEOS