

# Boston Groundwater Trust

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Christian Simonelli

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
One City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201-1007

Subject: BU Myles Standish Hall and Annex Renovation Project

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the project notification form (PNF) for the BU Myles Standish Hall and Annex Renovation Project. 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.

As stated in the PNF and confirmed at the scoping session the project is proposed to be designed and constructed to comply with the requirements of Article 32. The PNF also states that the proposed improvements do not include significant excavations below the groundwater level, that the project does not require new building foundations, and that no new basement space is planned to be constructed as part of the project. In addition any of the planned pits inside the existing basement and possibly manholes will be waterproofed.

As confirmed at the scoping session, the proponent will demonstrate that the proposed project meets the GCOD requirement for no reduction in groundwater levels on site or on adjoining lots by obtaining a stamped certification from a Massachusetts registered engineer. The letter must also confirm no new basement space or new foundations are planned and that all pits and possible manholes will be waterproofed. This letter should be provided to the Trust and the Board of Appeals before zoning is approved for the project.

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

Very truly yours,



Christian Simonelli  
Executive Director

CC: Kathleen Pederson, BRA  
Maura Zlody, BED