

Boston Groundwater Trust

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November 26th, 2018

Raul Duverge, Senior Project Manager
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007

Subject: Frankfort & Gove Street (Mt. Carmel) Project Notification Form (PNF)
Comments

Dear Mr. Duverge:


Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Frankfort & Gove Street (Mt. Carmel) Project Notification Form (PNF) located in East Boston. 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.

Although the project is not located in the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD) established under Article 32 of the Zoning Code, it is in an area of the City where there are many existing buildings that are supported on wood piles. As stated in an email with the proponents Engineer and confirmed at the scoping session, the project will be designed and constructed to comply with section 32-6 (b) provision that any Proposed Project result in no negative impact on groundwater levels within the lot in question or adjacent lots, subject to the terms of any (i) dewatering permit or (ii) cooperation agreement entered into by the Proponent and the Boston Redevelopment Authority, to the extent that such agreement provides standards for groundwater protection during construction.

As stated in the document the Project will include one-level basement to accommodate 71 parking spaces. As stated in an email from the proponents Engineer, this parking structure will be above the water table and is currently planned to be at -7.5' to -8' below grade to top of parking surface, with space for a slab and structure above the water line. Also stated in the email, any elements lower (footings or elevator pits in the garage) will be waterproofed.

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