

Boston Groundwater Trust

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November 30th, 2021

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Christian Simonelli

Tyler Ross, Project Assistant
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007

Subject: 85 West Newton Street Small Project Review Application (SPRA) Comments

Dear Mr. Ross:

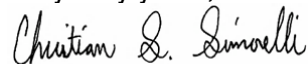
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 85 West Newton Street Small Project Review Application (SPRA) located in the South End neighborhood. The Boston Groundwater Trust (BGwT) was established by the Boston City Council to monitor groundwater levels in sections of Boston where the integrity of 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 SPRA the proposed project is located in the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD) established under Article 32 of the Zoning Code. Compliance with the GCOD requires both an approval letter from the Boston Water & Sewer Commission (BWSC) for the installation of a groundwater recharge system and a demonstration that the project cannot cause a reduction in groundwater levels on site or on adjoining lots in the form of a no harm letter, stamped by a professional Engineer registered in Massachusetts.

The proponent is required to provide both letters to the BPDA and the Trust prior to any filing for a BPDA board meeting and (if required) a Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hearing.

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

