



HOST COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

City Hall, Room 615 Boston MA 02201

Brian Leary, *Chairman*
Sarah Barnat
Lisa Calise
David Fubini
Ronald L. Walker II

March 20, 2013

Dear East Boston Community:

The Host Community Advisory Committee would like to share with you some of the City's assessments and recommendations of the environmental review of the proposed development at Suffolk Downs. In January Suffolk Downs submitted an Environmental Notification Form to the state. This is an important step in the process of reviewing the development, and ensuring that the development works for the community. The City has assembled a specialized team of City officials, independent consultants and subject matter experts to review this filing and the overall development. Included below are a series of requests and recommendations related to the environmental filing that the City is analyzing. We encourage the state to also consider them in its environmental review process.

The City and the community agree that traffic and transportation are a priority. With that in mind, the City is applying the highest standards to the developer's transportation plans, and asks that state do the same. The City has requested, and we recommend that the state also request from the developer:

- A detailed impact assessment and recommendations to protect the community from any potential impact;
- A detailed analysis of vehicular, pedestrian, bicycle and boat access connections to the site;
- An analysis on the MBTA, including availability of service and station improvements;
- An overall comprehensive parking study; and
- A detailed construction management and demand management plan.

As a leader in environmental sustainability and energy efficiency, the City is encouraged by Suffolk Downs' pledge for a particularly green development, including new plans to reduce pavement by 30% and transform current asphalt in to natural landscape. At the same time, the City has very high environmental standards. Therefore, the City asks that the state also request from the developer environmental material and studies in many areas, including the following:

- Detailed consideration of energy and water conservation and alternative energy measures;
- Use of sustainable building materials;
- Detailed evaluation of local and regional air quality impacts, and information on soil and hazardous materials;
- Information on stormwater management, sea level rise, and storm surge preparedness.
- In all of these areas, the City suggests that the developer consider impacts for the construction period as well as future effects.

Finally, we want to reiterate that the City's critique of the Environmental Notification Form is one of many reviews of the overall development, all of which are improved by community engagement and feedback. We look forward to continuing to work with the community and the state throughout this process.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Dello Russo, Esquire

Executive Director, Host Community Advisory Committee