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June 27, 2021

TO The Governor of the Commonwealth

DCAMM Project Manager, Loryn
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DCAMM Commissioner, Carol
Gladstone: carol.gladstone@mass.gov

FROM: Anne D. Neal Petri, President & CEO, National
Association for Olmsted Parks.

RE: Postpone the vote! Slow the process!
Shattuck Redevelopment: Final Project Proposal

The City and Commonwealth have a unique opportunity to regain 13 acres of parkland in Frederick Law Olmsted’s extraordinary Franklin Park, while simultaneously serving the important mental and physical health needs of their constituents.

This is not an either-or possibility. As we and others have already testified, there are alternative – and desirable – locations other than Norton Street that will facilitate the provision of more robust social services and transportation.

That is why we are asking you to postpone the vote on June 29. Since Shattuck Redevelopment is not expected to break ground until 2025, there is no reason to rush the process now -- in the absence of thoughtful and deliberative analysis of options. Although several vacant Commonwealth-owned properties are nearby, EOHSS has not performed either an Alternative Analysis or a Feasibility Analysis as a part of the planning process.

Moving ahead with the vote at this time will also prevent important continuing outreach to and input from neighbors adjacent to the affected property.

The projected redevelopment plans cannot be viewed as minor intrusions on Franklin Park. Over many years, city and state officials have appropriated more and more parkland for **nonpark and private** purposes. **Today, 40%, or 200 acres, of Franklin Park cannot be accessed freely by the general public.** Decisionmakers have the chance to set an

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example for the nation by restoring public parkland – whose benefits have been especially clear during the pandemic.

We respectfully request that you postpone any decision for the reasons outlined here and in [our previous submission](#). Thank you!

The National Association for Olmsted Parks represents thousands of individuals and organizations around the country working to protect and promote the life, work and legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted. www.olmsted.org. We help preserve and protect historic Olmsted landscapes; provide advocacy and technical assistance at the national and local level; offer key resources, educational material and conferences about Olmsted landscape designs; and publish and promote definitive scholarship. We are serving as the managing partner of the bicentennial of Olmsted's birth in 2022, Olmsted 200, www.olmsted200.org.