

Madalyn Letellier

From: Allison Bland [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2024 10:47 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Comment on zoning for Somerville Homeless Coalition shelter

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

This email is from an external source. Use caution responding to it, opening attachments or clicking links.

Good morning,

I am writing in support of the new location for the homeless shelter in Davis Square. The expanded accessibility and capacity are much needed. I live in East Somerville and have many unhoused neighbors who would benefit from these improved services. I feel this is an urgent issue that should not be blocked by a small group of vocal residents. It's something that affects our entire city, not just immediate neighbors who aren't supportive. I continue to see my unhoused neighbors die in unsafe conditions, and I hope the zoning board will consider their needs and the needs of neighborhoods across the city in making a decision about the shelter.

Thanks,
Allison Bland
[REDACTED], Somerville

Madalyn Letellier

From: jenn harrington [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 8:35 PM
To: Zoning Board; All City Council; Public Comments; [REDACTED]
Subject: Public comment: 89 College Ave (ZP24-000065)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

This email is from an external source. Use caution responding to it, opening attachments or clicking links.

Dear Members of the Zoning Board,

I have been a renter on [REDACTED] for over 22 years.

Until I was 12, I went to church every Sunday. Until I was 17, I attended religiously affiliated schools. While I don't follow a religion anymore, there is a belief I still hold dear: the conviction that to serve is the most divine act the living can do.

I can not think of a better form of grace than sheltering the homeless. I can not think of a better education—for those in need and for those who give to those in need—than helping people get to a stronger footing so they are not forced to live in poverty. And I can not think of a better area in Somerville than Davis Square to do this work. A place where there is hope of getting a job. A place that's accessible to public transportation. A place where so many people are in that privileged spot where they can lend a hand.

For these reasons, I wholeheartedly support Somerville Homeless Coalition's building permit for a homeless shelter on 89 College Ave. For these reasons, I ask the zoning board to reject this appeal.

Thank you for listening.

Jenn Harrington

Ward 3