

Offered by: COUNCILLORS SAM YOON & MARK CIOMMO



# CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

## Order for Hearing to review the Boston College Institutional Master Plan Article 80 Process

*WHEREAS*, There are certain statutory standards that must be met for a zoning change including satisfying Article 80 of the Zoning Code requiring a full public process, and;

*WHEREAS*, Article 80 requires the entity seeking a zoning change to respond to the Boston Redevelopment Authority's (BRA) Scoping Determination, and adequately and respectfully address the community's concerns, and;

*WHEREAS*, Numerous reasonable requests for information from the BRA about the Boston College (BC) Institutional Master Plan (IMP) were ignored, and;

*WHEREAS*, BC did not post updates to their IMP web site until a few hours before the BRA vote was scheduled to take place on January 29th, and;

*WHEREAS*, At the January 29th BRA meeting, after four hours of testimony, an affirmative vote to approve the IMP was taken without a single minute of debate among the BRA's five board members, strongly suggesting that a decision had been reached prior to the meeting, and;

*WHEREAS*, The BRA is the agency which petitions the Zoning Commission to adopt changes to zoning law, and;

*WHEREAS*, Prior to scheduling the March 18<sup>th</sup> Zoning Commission hearing, the BRA met the bare minimum for public notice and did not have the BC IMP available for review, as required by BRA statute, and;

*WHEREAS*, Tactical maneuvers such as these can only be interpreted as a means to skirt public review, which is required by Article 80 of the Zoning Code;

**THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED,**

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review the Article 80 public review process relative to Boston College's Institutional Master Plan.