

MINUTES
DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

June 11, 2019

5:00pm, Room #937A, 9th Floor, Boston City Hall

Project: **MassDOT Air Rights Parcel 12**, Boylston Street, Back Bay

Present: Boston Civic Design Commission Commissioner Linda Eastley, Boston Civic Design Commission Commissioner Mikyoung Kim, Boston Civic Design Commission Commissioner William Rawn (hereinafter, the “Commissioners”)

DISCUSSION: Since the last design committee discussion on May 14, 2019, the massing of the office building was revised to be slenderer and the landscape strategy was revised to create contrasting experiences of the urban, highly trafficked plaza at the ground and the shaded seating area at the second level. The design team, Elkus Manfredi Architects under contract with S&A P-12 Property LLC c/o Samuels & Associates, focused on improving the view of the project from the Mass Pike. These changes include simplifying the structural expression of the building and incorporating landscape berming as the project transitions along a sloped grade, as discussed at the May 14, 2019 meeting of the Boston Civic Design Commission. The Commissioners expressed appreciation for the extraordinary public realm contributions and thoughtful design this team proposes.

The Project team used a digital presentation and models of both the full proposal and façade details to outline their approach and project updates, and answered questions from the Commissioners present. The Project will return to the full Boston Civic Design Commission for a vote of recommendation.

6:00pm, Room #933A

Project: **Boston University Data Sciences Center**, 665 Commonwealth Avenue, Fenway

Present: Boston Civic Design Commission Commissioner Linda Eastley, Boston Civic Design Commission Commissioner Mikyoung Kim, Boston Civic Design Commission Commissioner David Manfredi

DISCUSSION: Representatives from Boston University gave an overview of the proposed project. Then, KPMB architects, the designers on the Project team, presented the incorporated comments from previous Design Committee meetings by altering façade patterning and materials, most notably with a new mirrored sawtooth louvre system, the introduction of visual reveals along the facade, and refinement of the complex system of fins that cover the building. The Commissioners responded favorably, emphasizing that detailing the project will be important as the design continues to develop, and that the design team should think about this project as an opportunity for prominent landscape architecture.

The Project team used a digital presentation and model to outline their approach and project updates, and answered questions from the Commissioners present. The Project will return to the full Boston Civic Design Commission for a vote of recommendation.