

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS TANIA FERNANDES ANDERSON, BREADON,
COLETTA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA,
WEBER, WORRELL, AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE SHATTUCK HOUSING PROPOSAL TO PRIORITIZE RACIAL EQUITY

- WHEREAS,** On June 21, 2023, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts provisionally designated Boston Medical Center as the redevelopment partner for the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital Campus, located at 170 Morton Street, at close proximity to Franklin Park; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In a rather ambitious endeavor to combat our state’s ongoing difficulties pertaining to the opioid crisis as well as homelessness, state officials determined that more than 400 units of supportive housing and more than 400 family housing could be placed in Shattuck hospital; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The size and scale of this proposed project, in an area that already offers quantities of affordable housing and halfway houses that is greatly disproportionate to its wealthier neighborhoods, has been met with a fair degree of community pushback and civic concern; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The state initially proposed offering 75 to 100 units of supporting housing, so the quadrupling of proposed units from the original plan is a substantive alteration in the project, and is seemingly deserving of more engagement vis a vis community members; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Furthermore, many constituents wonder what safety mechanisms are in place to ensure happy and health access to the nearby Franklin Park, and wish to ensure that the collective quality of life of the residents is not negatively impaired; *and*
- WHEREAS,** While it is vital that the state provide all necessary services for all of our people, including housing and addiction services, this should be done in a manner that honors community input, and that spreads said services around in an equitable fashion, both within the city and at the state level; *and*

WHEREAS, The data shows that when you only concentrate such services in areas that are already predominantly poor and working class, you increase the likelihood that said poverty will be perpetuated generationally; *and*

WHEREAS, Conversely, when you intentionally plan, on a city and state level, and equitably disburse such services across all neighborhoods, regardless of race and class, the communities and the people being serviced will both benefit; *and*

WHEREAS, The people who live near and around this proposed development are deserving of a more detailed explanation as why the plans for the housing at Shattuck was so radically altered to allow for more units, and, furthermore, they are worthy of a process that truly hears their collective concerns, and then acts in a manner that, at least, partially elements of said concerns into the final proposal: ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing, along with the appropriate state and city authorities, leaders from the BMC and Shattuck Hospital, as well as the BPHC, community activists, concerned constituents, and others, so that more relevant information can be gleaned and ascertained about the current proposal for supportive housing at the Lemuel Shattuck.

Filed on March 13, 2024