

February 24, 2014

Cambridge Planning Board  
344 Broadway  
Cambridge MA

Re: Petition #288 Leggat McCall

Dear Members of the Planning Board

We write in opposition to the petition #288 submitted by Leggat McCall who have been tentatively designated as the redeveloper of the abandoned Sullivan Courthouse.

We believe the proposal to renovate the Sullivan Court House Building for the purposes proposed by Leggat McCall violates the provisions of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance and also violates the stipulations made by the State agency disposing of the property. In each case, both the current zoning which limits buildings to 80 feet has been ignored as have other dimensional and parking requirements. The State agency disposing stipulated in writing that any bidder for the building must assume the project would meet Cambridge's zoning regulations. The proposal does not meet either of these requirements.

The use of this building for commercial purposes in its present form violates the change of use provisions stipulated in the ordinance.

The non-conforming status of the building should be terminated so as to return this site to a renewed public purpose or a development that is in conformance with the zoning ordinance.

The environmental impact of any reuse of this building has not been fully presented. The Board should deny any request for a waiver of project review under the Massachusetts Environmental Protection Act.

We urge that you support the termination of the current disposition process and request that the State take responsibility for the removal of this toxic site and return this site to the City of Cambridge for community purposes .

Sincerely,

O. R. Simha for the  
Kendall Square Residents Association

O. R. Simha  
303 Third Street  
Cambridge Mass