

Exhibit A - Statement of Intent

It is the intent of the client to construct a new building on the 7,265 square foot lot located at 1500 Massachusetts Avenue with the property being located in a B1 Zone.

The preexisting three (3) story, three (3) family dwelling located at 1500 Massachusetts Ave was demolished in anticipation of the construction of a new three (3) story mixed-use building. The new building will feature ground level office space, as well as four (4) 2-bedroom dwelling units.

There are to be five (5) vehicular parking spaces on site, as well as four (4) short term bicycle parking spaces located near the front entry and eight (8) long term bicycle parking spaces located in a designated bike room in the interior of the building.

The preexisting building was run down and uninviting as it stood. There was a paved driveway stretching the entire front length of the building, and there was minimal landscaping. The proposed design intends to provide a more desirable and interactive streetscape. This will be accomplished by adding maintained landscaped areas at the front of the building, as well as using materials and architectural elements such as bay windows to create visual ties to the existing buildings in the area. New storefront windows and doors at the ground floor will create a visual connection to the new retail space inside. New exterior lighting will be added both for aesthetics and safety purposes. The proposed design is a sophisticated way to give the building a more inviting and interactive street presence.

The lot is located in an area which contains many commercial businesses such as Mal's Auto Body, an extensive car washing business operation, a liquor store as well as other commercial enterprises further down Massachusetts Avenue in an easterly direction including Trader Joe's, and a major pharmacy and the combination of residential and commercial units in the building are a nice fit in the mixed use district in which the property is located.

The Petitioner's proposal would require six (6) parking spaces and five (5) are provided.

There is no parking requirement for the office space as that space comprises less than 3,000 square feet of the building.

The Petitioner will be applying for relief with respect to Section 6.1.5 of the zoning bylaw which allows a parking reduction in a business zone if allowed by the Redevelopment Board to 25% of that required in the Table of Off Use Street Parking regulations.

The Petitioner in accordance with subsection c of Section 6.1.5 will provide the following three TDM parking reduction methods:

1. Petitioner will provide covered bicycle parking and storage.
2. An electric charging station will be provided on site as shown on Petitioner's plans.
3. Petitioner will provide bicycle sharing on site.
4. A shower will be installed in the office unit.
5. All leases relating to the residential units will contain a provision that each residential tenant has the use of only one (1) parking space in the parking area.

The fact that employees of the office space can use public transportation and the four (4) short term bicycle parking spaces and the eight (8) long term bicycle parking spaces represents an open invitation

to individuals to use bicycles to travel to and from the building for any purpose including traveling to places of employment in the case of residents of the building and for business customers of the office space.

There is an MBTA bus stop in close proximity to the property to accommodate any residents of the building or any visitors to the office space who wish to travel to and from the location particularly so with respect to individual residents who may be employed in the Boston/Cambridge area who can simply leave their cars at the 1500 Mass Ave property and travel by public transportation to their places of employment.

The proposed building provides a large green open space at the rear of the building as well as additional open space on the side of the building as shown on Petitioner's plans.

The plans propose a two-way driveway for vehicular traffic with the addition of interior and exterior bicycle parking which will allow and make it more convenient for any employee of the office unit as well as residents to commute either to their employment or elsewhere by bicycle.

Petitioner's plans will add four (4) additional dwelling units in the Town as well as office space which is in keeping with the mix use intent of Zoning Bylaw.

Each of the upper level residential units will contain two (2) bedrooms and Petitioner suggests to the members of the Board that there has been an expressed need for additional residential units in the Town both as expressed in communications from the State level and provisions of the Master Plan for the Town.

The parking areas for motor vehicles for the office unit and the four (4) residential units are depicted on Plan AS101 and four spaces are located to the rear of the property adjacent to the driveway.

Given the height of the abutting buildings to the locus, i.e. the apartment house located to the left of the property, the residence to the rear of the property and the commercial property abutting the locus there will be "no shadow" effect from the construction on neighboring properties with respect to the proposal.