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**To:** "jraitt@town.arlington.ma.us" <jraitt@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**Subject:** 882-892 Mass. Ave., Arlington

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Dear members of the Redevelopment Board,

The proposed development at 882-892 Mass. Ave., Arlington, is too wide, too tall, has too many apartments, and will cost us all a great deal—in loss revenue from business, and also in loss of space and town character. We do not need another residential building that will *cost us!* in town services while reducing commercial space.

And we do not need another ugly building that butts up too closely to the street—that must be against current zoning. WHY are we even considering this kind of building?! We need commercial space and we need inviting civic space and we need green space. This takes away all three.

Nor am I persuaded that this is the only way to increase affordable housing. Affordable housing doesn't have to be ugly and financially damaging over the long term.

Please deny this application. This type of large, characterless development is detrimental to the town. The building must be lower, must be well set back, and must include lots of commercial space ("**small retail and service establishments serving the needs of adjacent neighborhoods**"). It must be redesigned to look attractive and be inviting to walk past, linger by, and walk into. It should allow space so restaurants can put tables out on the sidewalk for service. It should attract customers! It should allow trees and plantings (not token strips) all around, and have great sightlines for walkers, cyclists, and drivers.

This building is not all at what I envision when I think of "mixed use." Please just say no.

Yours,

Allysen Palmer  
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