

THE LOWER FALLS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION RIVERSIDE COMMITTEE
MISSION STATEMENT • SEPTEMBER 2018

WHO WE ARE

We represent the Newton Lower Falls community and its views regarding the development of Riverside.

OUR GOALS

- **Educate** Lower Falls and the greater Newton community about current and future Riverside plans
- **Investigate** the impact—social, political, economic, legal, transportation, environmental, educational—of development at Riverside
- **Advocate** for the interests and needs of the Lower Falls community
- **Coordinate** with other neighborhood groups, such as Auburndale, Newton Highlands, etc.

OUR HISTORY

- We are continuing the work of many dedicated community members which began meeting in 2006, followed by a 99 -year lease between the MBTA and the developer, BH Normandy LLC in 2009, and ended in 2014 when the City of Newton granted special permits to develop the Riverside site.
- The approved BH Normandy mixed-use development consisted of:
 - 290 apartments, 15% affordable, with 438 parking spaces
 - 225,000 feet of office space with 571 parking spaces
 - 20,000 feet of retail space and 11,000 feet of community space
 - 1,000-car commuter parking garage
- The project stalled due to a stalemate between BH Normandy and MBTA about who would pay for the garage.

WHY NOW?

- We are organizing now because Robert Korff (Mark Development), Washington Street developer, has recently partnered with BH Normandy to redesign the Riverside plan.
- The new Korff/Normandy proposal for Riverside *would significantly expand the approved plans.*

OUR POSITION

- Community input is essential to any development plan.
- We recognize that the Riverside site is underutilized and could be developed for a variety of purposes, including (but not restricted to) mixed-use development.
- Despite its many flaws, we (reluctantly) accept the Normandy/MBTA plan approved in 2014.

OUR PLANS

- Hold community information sessions about Riverside proposals and their impact.
- Meet with elected officials to promote our positions.
- Keep the neighborhood informed and updated.

For more information or to join us, contact any member of the LFIA Riverside Committee or email us at LFIAriverside@gmail.com.

Randall Block, Chair
John McElduff

Debbie DeBotton
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