



12 July 2016

Greater Portland Landmarks urges members of the Planning Board to support the proposed site plan and subdivision applications with the conditions stated in the staff report. Landmarks support the proposed rehabilitation of the Bolster House and the proposed new construction at 749 Congress Street. We are very pleased that this long vacant historic building will have a new life and contribute to the renewed vitality of the western end of the Congress Street Historic District.

We commend the development team for working with their neighbors to resolve various site issues that will help conserve the character of Mellen Street. We also commend the development team for their proposed use of the townhouse building form. Their revised townhouse design reinforces the historic character and traditional urban residential development patterns in Portland's West End and supports Portland's housing goal of design that respects neighborhood integrity. In addition, the project supports Portland's housing goal of infill redevelopment on a site close to open space and community amenities, and increases housing density along a well-served public transportation corridor.

Thank you for considering our views.

Julie Ann Larry
Director of Advocacy