

Dianne Boisvert

From: Colleen Turner <turnstyler@gmail.com>
Sent: October 06, 2020 11:54 AM
To: Katelyn E. Sullivan; glennprichards@comcast.net; Andrew Port; Dianne Boisvert
Cc: Colleen Turner Secino
Subject: [Ext]RE: Opposition to Institution for Savings Proposed Building Expansion

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Dear Historical Commission Members:

I write today to ask that you please move against the Institution for Savings proposed building expansion plans.

Despite your repeated requests that the overall size, mass and scale be addressed, the plans submitted all along (including the most recent “concept” design) remain too massive.

No set backs, as that is what neighbors and abutters would like to see but the Institution for Savings refuses.

No reduction to the overall height of the structure, as that is what neighbors and abutters would like to see but the Institution for Savings refuses.

It continues to be an excessively dense structure with the largest majority of its use allocated to covered, private parking.

No one needs to be reminded that the world is in the midst of a pandemic. Since March, people (including volunteer commission members) have worked remotely both efficiently and effectively. Wise and sensitive businesses and services have stepped back to assess, then adjusted their model to this new world.

The Institution for Savings has not done this.

In addition, its proposed plan detracts from the historic charm of downtown. It in no way adds to the character of the Newburyport community and is, ultimately, solely for the benefit of the Institution for Savings.

We ask that the Historical Commission reject this latest proposal and advise the Planning Board similarly.

Thank you. Please confirm receipt of this letter into the public record.

Colleen
Colleen Turner Secino
15 Otis Place - Unit 1
Newburyport, MA 01950

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617.429.2217

Dianne Boisvert

From: Aaron Clausen <anaclausen@yahoo.com>
Sent: October 08, 2020 7:18 AM
To: Katelyn E. Sullivan; glennprichards@comcast.net; Andrew Port; Dianne Boisvert
Subject: [Ext]Opposing IFS plans

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Good Morning,

This is Aaron and Anne Clausen of 3 Otis Place, we are stating that we oppose the Institute For Savings 'conceptual' plan as we have with the plans previously. The current plan is still too tall, too much and just too big. I believe we are going on seven months and there has been no measurable change, the footprint on Newburyport is out of our city's character. Not only will this be a long construction project for the the area, including our library, but this will greatly impact our city for years to come.

It is hard to image this is the way the Historical Committee intended Newburyport to appear as a historical town.

Thank you,
Anne Marie Clausen

Dianne Boisvert

From: Peter Mackin <petemackin@gmail.com>
Sent: October 08, 2020 9:00 AM
To: Glenn Richards; Andrew Port; Dianne Boisvert; Katelyn E. Sullivan
Cc: Colleen Turner
Subject: [Ext]IFS Opposition - Please distribute prior to tonight's meeting.

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Letter to Newburyport Historical Commission:

We oppose the Institution For Saving's construction proposal. We oppose the mass, size, scale of this mammoth addition. To be clear, we do not oppose the bank's ability to grow.

Not once has IFS reduced the size of their proposal, despite considerable requests to do so. The IFS has turned a deaf ear to the Historic Commission and Planning Board's recommendations to work with the community. Instead they continue to come back with cosmetic changes when the issue has always been the size. IFS has ignored the input of their neighbors. Adding clapboard siding is not a solution to reduce size and will not blend in with the neighborhood. It would just be an enormous clapboard "home" with no setback in a very small space. It produces a "tunnel effect" for pedestrians and motorists.

Michael Jones, CEO, wants to establish a museum to house artifacts from the bank's 200 year history. How many customers and how often will customers tour such a "corporate" museum? Why not develop a rotating historical display in the lobbies of each IFS branch? And if you are not an IFS customer, will a State Street IFS museum become a "must see" destination in Newburyport? Seriously? **Isn't it ironic that the bank's determination to preserve their history is destroying the history of our neighborhood.**

It is hard to believe that a bank museum and office space for only 7 additional employees would justify constructing a building, much larger than the original 1860's structure. It is an oversized, too tall, structure of which 60% of the new space will be an indoor employee parking garage. The bank is destroying the historical fabric of our South End / Downtown neighborhood. How can a bank that touts it's "community mindedness" have so little compassion for its neighbors.

We respectfully request the Newburyport Historical Commission recommend AGAINST approval of the IFS building project.

Peter & Maureen Mackin

13 Prospect Street