April 12, 2007

Mr. Gerald Autler, Senior Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007

Subject: Wheelock College Campus Center and Student Residence

Dear Mr. Autler:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Project Impact
Report for Wheelock's new CCSR project. I filed comments on the
Wheelock Institutional Master plan on March 13. The Boston
Groundwater Trust was established by the Boston City Council to monitor
groundwater levels in areas of the City where the integrity of building
foundations is threatened by lowered groundwater levels and to make
recommendations for solving the problem. As such, my comments are
limited to groundwater related issues.

The project is located within the Groundwater Conservation Overlay
District, and I am pleased that the proponents plan to comply with the
requirements of Article 32. While we are often concerned about the use of
an underdrain system, since it will drain the recharge system, the water
will be ultimately returned to the ground. The project will not have a deep
excavation, reducing the possibility that groundwater levels would be
affected by construction.

I look forward to meeting with the proponent to discuss the location of
groundwater observation wells around the site. These will ideally be
located on public property and can be turned over to the Trust after
construction for incorporation into our observation well network. The
wells should be read for six months before construction to establish a base
groundwater level. They should then be read at appropriate intervals
during and after construction to be sure that level has been maintained.
Readings should be shared shortly after they are taken with the Authority
and the Trust.

I look forward to working with the proponent and the Authority as the project progresses to assure that it helps as we strive to increase groundwater levels within the area of concern.

Very truly yours,

Elliott Laffer
Executive Director

Cc: Kathleen Pederson, BRA
        Maura Zlody, BED