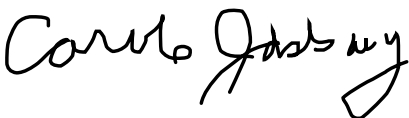


Newton City Councilors:

The giant lot on the corner of Needham and Oak Streets in Newton Upper Falls is in dire need of some kind of redevelopment. This site has so much potential. Currently, it's an underused parking lot, a lovely but underused historic mill, and a condemned factory and warehouse. With Northland Investment Corporation's planning for this location, it could be dramatically upgraded for the future.

By maintaining the historic mill building and repurposing it into useful office space (hello tax revenue!), Northland will make this a great place-making opportunity consistent with the history of the Upper Falls. And by utilizing LEED for Neighborhood Development green design, this proposal will bring the site fully into the 21st century. Converting 30% of the property into public parks will make this location an attractive place for Upper Falls and Oak Hill residents. The Garden City certainly needs more parks. The 1000+ bike spaces and innovative Mobility Hub shuttle-bus system will encourage multi-modal, sustainable transportation options and are great ideas too.

I urge the Newton City Council to approve this project. It's been 40 years and now is the time to make this lovely plan a central part of our neighborhood experience.



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