



CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT

52 ELLIOT STREET, NEWTON HIGHLANDS, MA 02461

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor
Josh Morse
Building Commissioner

Telephone (617) 796-1600
Facsimile (617) 796-1601
TDD/tty # (617) 796-1608

October 19, 2021

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

RE: Request to Acquire Property Adjacent to the Williams Elementary School

Dear Mayor Fuller:

I am requesting that you seek authorization from the City Council to acquire by friendly eminent domain two parcels abutting the Williams Elementary School. The parcels are located on Hancock Street (labeled as Lot A on attached map) 169 Grove Street (labeled as Lot B on attached map).

I understand that the owner of both these properties have been contacted by City staff and expressed a willingness to work with the City in terms of the acquisition of their properties.

A portion of the open space on these parcels will allow for future flexibility for Williams Elementary School building and site, and the structures located on Hancock Street (labeled as Lot A on attached map) 169 Grove Street (labeled as Lot B on attached map), shall be preserved while we work with the Planning Department, City Council, and Community to determine the best way to preserve and repurpose these structures for affordable housing.

Accordingly, I would ask that authorization to acquire these two parcels be brought to the City Council as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Josh Morse
Public Buildings Commissioner

cc: Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer
Maureen Lemieux, Chief Financial Officer
James Mcgonagle, Commissioner of Public Works
Alex Valcarce, Deputy Buildings Commissioner
David Stickney, Director of Facilities