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City Planning Division
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Dear Planning Board Members,

Here we go again! ...and you go through this all the time!

Thank you for the attentive consideration you gave to the details of the 118 Congress project on 17 December. I spoke at that meeting and voiced my appreciation for the architectural design of the building. While I still appreciate the building's aesthetics, I ask for your further consideration for:

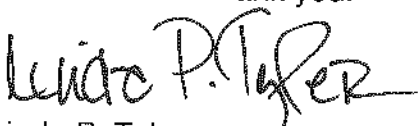
--easement: the overhangs over the sidewalk would present both visual and, more important, safety problems;

--set-back: the compromise proposed by the developers regarding the board's request for a set-back of two and half feet (if I remember correctly) to one foot is unacceptable; I cringe when I see the "Line Diagram Looking Westerly up Congress" and the "Line Diagram Looking West on Congress St. Sidewalk." I blacked in the space within the the diagram's outline and went from cringing to being horrified. I see, rather than visual interest from the vantage of human scale at pedestrian level, a severe disruption;

--trees and plantings: the developers' compromise to Jeff Tarling's astute comments about trees and landscaping seems to dismiss both Mr. Tarling and his concerns; we in Portland take our arborist and his leadership seriously.

--sunlight: regarding plantings, as well as people, is the presence of sunlight given enough consideration by the developers? I hear that the height variance for the building is a "done deal," but I wonder how many people had enough notice to be attentive to the planning meetings and workshops, especially during the holiday season. Most people in the Munjoy Hill area have said that they do not receive the post-card announcements--this could be rectified with a bit more time. How does one get on the list?

My thoughts lead me to ask the board members to table this project for later consideration. Thank you.


Linda P. Tyler