

Google Groups

203 Fore Street Meeting - 11/15/17

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Posted in group: **Planning Board**

My wife and I just attended a neighborhood meeting regarding the above property put on by Chatham Lodging Trust. I wanted to share with you two concerns that dominated about 95% of the discussion:

- 1) Green space - The proposed hotel design has minimal landscaping / green space in the current plan. While we were assured that the design complies with the "code", the overwhelming consensus was that more must be done on site to add more landscaping (not hardscaping) and benches on the India Street side of the proposed building and on the corner of India and Fore Streets (see existing plantings for reference).
- 2) Parking - It was evident that none of the presenters understood the already critical state of available parking in this area (pre-WEX!). They referenced valet parking in a yet-to-be constructed off-site garage as a partial solution. At some point the Planning Board needs to come to grips with whether or not they want Portland to be a tourist destination for day visitors. All this hotel (targeted at business travelers) will do is to exacerbate the parking and traffic situation in the area.

They referenced a meeting with the Planning Board tomorrow. Please feel free to share this input at that time.

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