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; 02/27/18 4:59 AM
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;;;BOSTON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING 4:30
;;;02/27/2018

ARTS, CULTURE AND SPECIAL
EVENTS.

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE.

I WANT TO REMIND EVERYONE IT IS
A PUBLIC HEARING AND BEING
BROADCAST LIVE ON CHANNEL 8 FOR
COMCAST, RCN CHANNEL 82, VERIZON
1964 AND WEBCAST LIVE ON THE
THOUSAND OF BOSTON'S WEBSITE.

I WANT TO ASK EVERYONE TO PLEASE
SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE AND
OTHER DEVICES.

WE'LL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO
TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND WOULD
APPRECIATE THAT YOU SIGN IF
YOU'D LIKE TO TESTIFY AND YOU
START YOUR TESTIMONY BY STATING
YOUR NAME, AFFILIATION AND
RESIDENCE.

TODAY'S HEARING IS ON DOCKET
NUMBER 0257.

THIS MATTER WAS SPONSORED BY THE
MAYOR AND REFERRED BY THE
COMMITTEES OF ARTS CULTURE AND
SPECIAL EVENTS ON FEBRUARY 7,
2008.

DOCKET 257, MESSAGE AND ORDER
AWE PRIVING THE THOUSAND OF
BOSTON TO ACCEPT THE RIGHT TO
ENFORCE A USE RESTRICTION TO
ENSURE THE HUNTINGTON THEATRE
CONTINUES TO BE USED AS A
THEATRE OR SIMILAR CULTURAL USE.
WE ARE JOINED TODAY BY MEMBERS
OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND -- BY
MEANS OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND
I'LL ASK YOU TO INTRODUCE
YOURSELF FOR THE ROAR STATING
YOUR NAME AND DEPARTMENT TITLE.
BEGIN WITH YOU, JOYCE.

>> I'M JOYCE, POLICY AND
PLANNING FOR THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.
>> I'M [INDISCERNIBLE] DIRECTOR
OF THE REVIEW AT THE BOSTON
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
>> IF YOU'D LIKE TO BEGIN WITH A

PRESENTATION AND I'LL JUST HAVE
A FEW QUESTIONS.
YOU MAY ALREADY ANSWER FOR ME IN
THE PRESENTATION AND HOPEFULLY
WE CAN GET RIGHT TO PUBLIC
TESTIMONY AND WRAP UP.
THANK YOU.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

I'M HERE TO TESTIFY IN FAVOR OF
MAYOR WALSH TAKING ACTION TO
SIGN A DECLARATION OF RESTRICTED
COVENANTS AT 264 HUNTINGTON
AVENUE THROUGH WHICH THE CITY OF
BOSTON OBTAINS THE RIGHT TO
ENFORCE A USE RESTRICTION
REQUIRES THE OWNER OF THE
PROPERTY TO CONTINUE TO USE IT
FOR THEATRICAL AND CULTURAL AND
ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES.

IT WAS FOUND AT ITS CURRENT
LOCATION ON HUNTINGTON AVENUE IN
1982 AND OVER THE PAST 35 YEARS
IT HAS PLAYED CRITICAL ROLE IN
THE CULTURE FABRIC OF BOSTON
INCLUDING THE SOUTH END THEATRE
IN 2004.

ABOUT THE SALE OF ITS HOME
BELMONT UNIVERSITY IN 2016, THE
HUNTINGTON FACED AN UNTEETER
FUTURE.

AFTER CONSIDERABLE DIALOGUE WITH
9 MAYOR'S OFFICE, BPS AND THE
HUNTINGTON THEATRE THE NEW
OWNERS WERE ABLE TO REACH AN
AGREEMENT TO PRESERVE THE
THEATRE AND PRESUME DEVELOPMENT
ON A PORTION OF THE SITE.
AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR OF
COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER
ENGAGEMENT THROUGH THE
DEVELOPMENT OF VIEW PROCESS THE
BPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTED IN
DECEMBER 2017 TO APPROVE
REDEVELOPMENT ON THE SITE WITH A
MIX OF PRESERVATION AND NEW
CONSTRUCTION.

THE HISTORIC 264 HUNTINGTON
AVENUE BUILDING WILL REMAIN,
CONTINUE TO SEVEN AS THE HUB OF
THE THEAFT'S ACTIVITIES, ALSO
HAVING THE POTENTIAL TO ADD
37,000 SQUARE FEET OF LOADING
OFFICE AND REHEARSAL SPACE.
THE BUILDING AT 252 1K 258

HUNTING AVENUE WILL BE REDEVELOPED REPLACED BY 450,000 SQUARE FOOT RESIDENTIAL TOWER INCLUDING SPACE OVER THE THEATRE WITH NEW ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE AS WELL AS LOBBY RECEPTION AND PROGRAMMING SPACE OVER THE FIRST TWO FLOORS OF THE BUILDING.

AN IMPORTANT OUTCOME OF THE DIALOGUE THAT PRECEDED THE PROJECT APPROVAL WAS THAT THE HUNTINGTON AVENUE BUILDING BE GIFTED TO THE HUNTING COMPANY. THIS GENEROUS DONATION WILL HELP SOLIDIFY THE FUTURE OF THIS CULTURAL ORGANIZATION FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE BUILDING REMAIN DEDICATED TO THEATRE OR CULTURAL USE THE DEVELOPER WOULD IMPOSE A USE RESTRICTION WITHIN THE DEED.

THE ORDER BEING CONSIDERED TODAY WILL ALLOW THE CITY TO ENFORCE CONDITIONS OF THE RESTRICTION PROVIDING AN ADDED LAYER PROHECKION AND ENSURES IT REMAINS A HOME TO THEATRE, ARTS USE AND PERPETUITY.

I NOTE THIS TYPE OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP HAS A CHANCE TO SERVE AS A POWERFUL EXAMPLE MOVING FORWARD.

LESS THAN A YEAR AGO THE BPA AND THE MAYOR'S OFFICE RELEASED THE ASSESSMENT IDENTIFYING THE NEEDS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FACING OUR CITY IN THE SPACE.

THE REPORT SPECIFICALLY RECOGNIZES THE COLLECTED EFFORTS OF THE CITY, DEVELOPER AND THE HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY TO PRESERVE AND INVEST IN RENOVATION AND MODERN STATION OF THE THEATRE ITSELF.

MY HOPE THE LESSONS LEARNED WILL LEAD TO FULLER SUCCESSES THAT EXPAND ACCESS TO THE ARTS FOR ALL BOSS TONE YUNTZ.

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY TODAY AND LOOK FORWARD TO ANSWERING ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

>> I APPRECIATE THAT, THANK YOU.
IF YOU COULD TELL US WHAT THE
LEGAL FINANCIAL RISKS OR
BENEFITS ARE TO THE CITY.

>> [INDISCERNIBLE] ARTICULATE
WHAT WE SOUGHT TO DO WHEN WE
HEARD THE HUNTINGTON WAS GOING
TO BE EVICTED FROM THE BUILDING
IT'S BEEN IN FOR QUITE A LONG
TIME, WE WORKED DILL GENTLY TO
COME UP WITH A CREATIVE SOLUTION
SO THAT THE HUNTINGTON COULD
STAY WITH IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN.
THE IMPORTANT THING TO US THOUGH
WAS THAT WHILE WE ALL BELIEVE
THE HUNTINGTON IS GOING TO BE
THERE FOR A VERY VERY LONG TIME
WE ALSO WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT
IN THE EVENT THE HUNTINGTON IS
NO LONGER THE OCCUPANT OF THE
THEATRE WHICH THEY'VE BEEN
GIFTED, THAT THE SPACE WAS HELD
FOR CULTURAL USE ESSENTIALLY IN
PERPETUITY.

AND SO BY CREATING THIS COVENANT
AND HAVING IT BE THE CITY WITH
THE APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL
HOPEFULLY, THE ONES THAT
PROFFERED THE RESTRICTION THAT
THAT WOULD PROVIDE US WITH GREAT
ENFORCEMENT TOOLS IN THE EVENT
THE HUNTINGTON IS NO LONGER THE
TENTH AT THE HUNTINGTON.

>> ANY RISKS, DOWN FALLS.

>> I DON'T SEE ANY RISKS.

I'M REALLY HAPPY TO BE HERE
TODAY ON BEHALF OF THE MAYOR
BECAUSE I THINK THAT THIS DEAL
THAT WE WERE SUPPORTIVE OF IS
REALLY GREAT INDICATION, A
REALLY GREAT EXAMPLE OF THE
KINDS OF THINGS WE CAN DO WHEN
WE GET CREATIVE AND TRY TO MOVE
DEVELOPERS TO CREATE PLACES FOR
CULTURAL USE AND TO PRESERVE
PLACES FOR CULTURAL USE AS WE'RE
SEEING SOME DISPLACEMENT IN SOME
PLACES OF CULTURAL USE.

SO THIS I THINK IS PROBABLY OF
ALL THE THINGS WE'VE WORKED ON
SINCE WE'VE GOTTEN HERE I THINK
THIS IS ONE OF THE ONES WE'RE
PROUDEST OF.

IT REALLY, IT PROTECTS THE

HUNTINGTON WHICH IS A GEM, I THINK WE CAN ALL AGREE. THE HUNTINGTON DOES SO MUCH ASIDE FROM PRODUCING GREAT ART, IT ALSO HAS INCREDIBLE EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

IT'S THE NORTHEAST HOME FOR THE LEGACY OF AUGUST WILSON WHICH I THINK WE ALL AGREE IS VERY VERY IMPORTANT TO THE CITY.

THERE REALLY ISN'T, I THINK THE RISK WOULD HAVE BEEN LETTING THIS HAPPEN, LETTING THE HUNTINGTON BE EVICTED AND POTENTIALLY CREATING A SPACE THAT MIGHT NOT ALWAYS BE USED AS FOR CULTURAL USE.

>> THE HUNTINGTON IS CLEARLY COMMUNITY BENEFIT.

COULD YOU SPEAK JUST FOR THE RECORD WHAT SOME OF THE OTHER COMMUNITY BENEFITS ARE AND WHAT THAT PROCESS WAS IN TERMS OF HOW YOU GOT TO THAT?

>> THAT'S A GREAT QUESTION AND ONE WE'RE HAVING TO TALK ABOUT.

I WOULD SAY JUST TO ADD TO JOYCE'S POINT, THE GIFTING OF THE THEATRE FROM THE QMG GROUP TO THE HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY IS A LOYALTY TRANSACTION.

WITHIN THAT TRANSACTION IS A DEED COVENANT A RESTRICTION. THE ACTION THAT BEING CONSIDERED TODAY ALLOWS THE CITY TO ALSO HAVE OVERSIGHT OVER THAT RESTRICTION.

IT GOES FROM BEING JUST SOMETHING THAT COULD BE ENFORCED BY THE FORMER SITE OWNER WHICH IS NOW SOMETHING THE CITY CAN GET INVOLVED WITH AND IT ALLOWS TO ENSURE WE'RE PART OF THE CONVERSATION IN THE UNFORTUNATE EVENT THAT THE HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY NO LONGER IS IN THE SPACE, ALLOWS US TO BE FIRST AND FOREMOST IN THE CONVERSATION WHAT THE USE OF THAT SPACE IS AND MAINTAIN THE IN PERPETUITY.

IN REGARD TO THE OVERALL CONVERSATION ON THE PROJECT I WOULD SAY THERE'S AT LEAST 18

MONTHS OF DIALOGUE THE LAST YOUR
OF WHICH WAS SUBSTANTIAL PUBLIC
PROCESS OF THE ARTICLE 80
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW IN APPROVAL
PROCESS.

THERE ARE NUMEROUS PUBLIC
MEETINGS AND I THINK A GENUINE
APPRECIATION WITHIN THE
COMMUNITY AND ALSO THE ARTS
COMMUNITY OF THIS IDEA THAT
PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP SO
THAT YOU HAVE A DEVELOPER THAT
WAS ALLOWED TO PURSUE CERTAINLY
AN URBAN MIXED USE PROJECT THAT
IS CONSISTENT WITH SIZE AND
SCALE OF THE SIZE IN THE AREA
AND HADDING HOUSING TO THE CITY
BUT THE ABILITY TO PRESELF A
BUILDING THAT IS HIS TORQUE NOT
ONLY IN ITS -- HISTORIC NOT ONLY
IN IT'S USE BUT TO RESTORE IT TO
ITS FORMER GLORY IT'S TWO TOO
DRAMATIC BUT MAKE SURE THE
THEATRE IS REVITALIZED THAT THE
EXTERIOR MATCHES THE EXCITING
THINGS HAPPENING INTERNALLY.
ONE OF THE MAIN COMMUNITY
BENEFITS I WOULD LIKE TO HIGH
LIGHT IS THE FACT THE THEATRE
TODAY IS INACCESSIBLE.

IT DOES NOT HAVE A GREAT ADA
ACCESS POINT.

WHEN WE TALK ABOUT MAKING SURE
WE HAVE ACCESS TO ALL BOSTONIANS
IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER
PROBABLY INTO SOME SORT OF
PHYSICAL IMPEDIMENT AT SOME
POINT IN OUR LIVES.

WE WANT TO MAKE SURE FOR ALL
AGES AND ALL MOBILITIES THE CITY
OF BUSTON HAS ACCESS TO THE
SPACE.

SO THIS 13,000 SQUARE FEET OF
CULTURAL SPACE WHERE THE NEW AND
OLDING BUILDINGS MEET.

THERE IS A BRAND NEW ENTRANCE AS
WELL AS LOBBY AND REZIPPION
SPACE.

THAT ALLOWS THE THEATRE TO DO
WORK BEYOND WHAT'S HAPPENING
WHEN YOU'RE SITTING IN A SEAT
WATCHING A PERFORMANCE.

IT ALLOWS FOR GATHERINGS FOR
RECEPTIONS.

ALLOWS THE THEATRE TO HAVE A
MORE OPEN APPROACH TO THE
COMMUNITY AROUND IT.

IF YOU BEEN TO THE THEATRE
ITSELF, IT'S A BRICK AND STONE
FACADE.

YOU CAN'T SEE IN.

THIS IS A TWO STORY GLASS SPACE
SO THE ACTIVATION YOU'LL BE ABLE
TO SEE WHAT'S HOPPING ON THE
INSIDE FROM THE OUTSIDE AS
PEOPLE ARE WALKING BY.

WORE EXCITED ABOUT THAT.

IN TERMS OF SOME OF THE
BENEFITS, THERE WAS SUBSTANTIAL
INVESTMENT IN TERMS OF PARKS.

SO THEY WILL BE WORKING WITH
GROUP PROJECT WITH THE PARKS
DEPARTMENT IN THE NEARBY PARK,
THE PROJECT WILL BE PROVIDING
MUCH NEEDED AFFORDABLE HOUSING
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ICD
POLICY.

13% OF THE 400 UNITS WILL BE ON
SITE WHICH IS SOMETHING WE'RE
ALSO EXCITED B WE'RE GETTING
HOUSING, PRESERVATION OF A
THEATRE WHICH IS NOT A
SUBSTANTIAL THING.

THERE'S NO COST TO THE THEATRE
AND IT IDENTIFIES THE
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE THEATRE TO
HAVE THE SPACE AND PARTNERSHIP
FOR AD ACCESS BUT THE ABILITY TO
HAVE AN EXPANSION OF SQUARE FEET
IN THE REAR WHICH WILL ALLOW
THEM HOPEFULLY IN THE FUTURE
AFTER A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN HAVE
NEW REHEARSAL SPACE LOADING
SPACE AND OFFICE SPACE SO THEY
CAN CONSOLIDATE THEIR OFFICE
SPACE IN ONE LOCATION AS MUCH AS
POSSIBLE.

>> TO CLARIFY ALL 13% IS ON
SITE.

>> YES.

>> COULD YOU SPEAK TO HOW MANY
JOBS JUST FOR THE RECORD WILL BE
CREATED IN TERMS OF CONSTRUCTION
JOBS AND PERMANENT JOBS.

>> IF YOU GIVE ME A SECOND, I
CAN LOOK THAT UP.

>> SURE.

THANK YOU.

>> I JUST WANTED TO FIND IT.
A LOT OF PAPERS IN FRONT OF US.
IT'S A \$290 MILLION PROJECT AND
WILL GENERATE TWO MILLION IN
PROPERTY TAX REVENUE.
THERE WILL BE FULL TIME
CONSTRUCTION PHASE JOBS AS WELL
AS 40 NEW FULL TIME JOBS ONCE
THE PROJECT OPENS.
>> WHAT KIND OF COMMIT HAS THE
CITY RECEIVED THAT THE DEVELOPER
WILL UTILIZE AND BE AWBE'S WHAT
PERCENTAGES IN BE'S AND WBE'S
WILL BE USED FOR THIS JOB.
>> MY UNDERSTANDING IT WILL BE
FULLY COMPLIANT WITH THE CITY'S
MWBE POLICY.
THERE WILL BE A REPORTING ASPECT
THROUGHOUT THE CONSTRUCTION.
>> IN TERMS OF THE PERMANENT
JOBS SO THESE RETAIL SPACE
COMING ON SITE.
ARE THERE ANY DEALS IN PLACE
THAT WOULD OFFER ANY KIND OF
SUBSIDIES FOR SMALL BUSINESS
OWNERS TO KIND OF COME INTO THE
SPACE.
>> SO THE SHORT ANSWER NO.
THERE'S ABOUT 7,000 SQUARE FEET
OF RETAIL.
ONE OF THE THING WE'RE EXCITED
ABOUT IS THAT THE NEW
RESIDENTIAL TOWER HAS 21,000
SQUARE FEET OF SPACE AT ITS BASE
OVER TWO FLOWERS.
14,000 OF THAT IS DEVOTED TO
AUGMENTING THE THEATRE SPACE.
BUT THE IDEA IS THAT THE RETAIL
SPACE WILL COMPLEMENT SO IT CAN
BE A BIT OF A POUROUS SPACE SO
THE RESTAURANT CAN BAY PARTNER
WITH A THEATRE IN CERTAIN TYPES,
ETCETERA AND THE RETAIL SPACE
FOR LACK OF BETTER TALK TO THE
HUNTINGTON SPACE.
THE IDEA YOU CAN GO AND HAVE A
MEAL AND WALK RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO
GO TO THE THEATRE THAT'S THE
KIND OF THING WE'RE LOOKING FOR.
>> SO ARE THERE ANY FINAL
COMMENTS YOU WOULD WANT TO MAKE
IN CLOSING BEFORE I OPEN IT UP
FOR PUBLIC TESTIMONY?
I THINK I'M DONE WITH MY

QUESTIONS.

>> I WOULD JUST ASK THAT THE
[INDISCERNIBLE].

SOMETHING WE WANT TO PROTECT
FROM DISPLACEMENT AND THIS DOES
THAT IN A NEW AND CREATIVE WAY.
I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST TIME
THAT THE CITY HAS DONE SOMETHING
OF THIS NATURE AND I THINK IT'S
REALLY EXCITING HARBINGER TYPE.

>> WE OPEN IT UP TO TESTIMONY.
WE HAVE MICHAEL WHO WANTS TO
TESTIFY.

IF YOU COULD COME TO THE PODIUM,
PLEASE.

THANK YOU.

COULD YOU PLEASE STATE YOUR
NAME, YOUR ADDRESS AND YOUR YOU
A FILL INFORMATION.

>> MICHAEL.

I'M THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE
HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY.
WE'RE LOCATED AT 264 HUNTINGTON
AVENUE.

>> THANK YOU.

>> I LOVED HEARING JOHN AND
JOYCE SPEAK.

I FEEL A LITTLE BIT LIKE
HUCKLEBERRY FINN OR TOM SAWYER.
THIS WAS AN EXTRAORDINARY
PROCESS.

FIRST OF ALL IT'S PERFECTLY
APPROPRIATE -- CITY DISTRICT
COUNCIL ARE HERE AND I LOOK
FORWARD TO TAKING YOU AROUND
AND SHOWING YOU OUR SPACE AND
SHOWING YOU WHAT WE'RE GOING TO
BE DOING THERE.

I AM HERE TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OF
THE RESOLUTION.

YES, IT OPPOSES RESTRICTIONS ON
HUNTINGTON THEATRE BUT
RESTRICTIONS THAT ARE PERFECTLY
CONSISTENT WITH OUR PURPOSE AND
OUR MISSION IN OUR VALUES AND
THE WORK WE'RE GOING TO DO.
WE'RE GOING TO BE INVESTING
SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 35 AND \$50
MILLION IN THE UPGRADE OF THIS
FACILITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF
MAKING IT AN ONGOING ALL DAY CAN
LONG SPACE THAT NOT ONLY SERVES
THE CULTURAL COMMUNITY.
NOT ONLY SERVES OUR AUDIENCES

AND ARTISTS FROM AROUND BOSTON.
OTHER CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS.
OUR INTENTION IS TO KEEP THAT
14,000 SQUARE FEET PORTION OF
THIS SPACE OPEN ALL DAY LONG TO
ANIMATE IT WITH EVENTS WITH
MEETINGS, WITH WAYS THAT THE
COMMUNITY CAN ACCESS IT ALL DAY.
WE DON'T WANT TO BUILD THIS
BUILDING JUST SO PEOPLE CAN COME
JUST FOR THREE HOURS AT A TIME
AND THEN GO HOME.

WE INTEND TO MAKE THIS A
CULTURAL HUB SIMILAR TO THE WAY
WE'VE DONE AT THE PAVILION ON
THE SOUTH END BUT ACTUALLY
STEPPING IT UP A GRADE BY
PROVIDING INCENTIVES AND
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO USE
IT ALL DAY LONG.

WE THINK THIS IS VERY EXCITING
AND SHOULD ONLY BE IN THE FUTURE
A CULTURAL THEATRE SPACE, A
PERFORMING SPACE, A CULTURAL
SPACE.

AND WE HOPE CERTAINLY THAT THE
COUNCILORS AGREE TO THESE
RESTRICTIONS ON US AND I WOULD
ONLY SAY THAT WHEN WE BEGAN THIS
PROCESS, THERE WAS A RISK AS
JOYCE INDICATED THAT HUNTINGTON
WAS GOING TO LOSE THE SPACE WAS
AT RISK.

THE SPACE WAS NOT GOING TO
CONTINUE AS A CULTURAL SPACE AT
ALL, AND THE EXTRAORDINARY
PARTNERSHIP THAT WE HAVE
BENEFITED FROM LED BY MAYOR
WALSH BUT CERTAINLY BOTH JOHN
AND JOYCE WERE EXTRAORDINARY
ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS.

IT'S AN EXAMPLE OF PUBLIC
PRIVATE BENEFITS WHICH IS VERY
EXCITING FOR US WHICH I THINK
SAVED IMPORTANT SERVICES FOR
200,000 PEOPLE AND 35,000 YOUNG
PEOPLE A YEAR.

AND WE'RE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE
ENORMOUS EFFORT THAT IT TOOK.
AND THIS IS ANOTHER VERY
IMPORTANT STEP.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.

I REALLY APPRECIATE YOU BEING
HERE WITH US TODAY.

IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'D JUST LIKE
TO ASK SOME FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS.
>> OF COURSE.

>> I LOVE THE WORK THAT YOU'RE
DOING AT THE THEATRE AND I
WONDER IF YOU COULD JUST SEEING
TO -- SPEAK TO HOW THE THEATRE
PLANS TO CONTINUE TO ENGAGE OUR
YOUNG PEOPLE STUDENTS AND OUR
SCHOOLS AND MAKING SURE THEY
HAVE ACCESS.

IN PARTICULAR STUDENTS FROM
COMMUNITIES OF COLOR.

>> EACH YEAR WE PROVIDE
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS WHICH
SERVICE ABOUT 30 TO 35,000 YOUNG
PEOPLE A YEAR.

SOME OF THEM ARE VERY
STRAIGHTFORWARD.

5 TO 6,000 YUK PEOPLE COME TO
SEE THE SHOW THAT WE INTEND FOR
CHILDREN BECAUSE MAINLY THERE
ARE A LOT FOCUSED ON YOUNG
PEOPLE .

OUR FOCUS IS ON MIDDLE AND HIGH
SCHOOL STUDENTS.

THESE ARE INTELLIGENT MOTIVATED
ADULTS WHO WE SERVICE AS HIGHLY
INTELLIGENT AND MOTIVATED
ADULTS.

WE PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR, WE
HAVE TEACHERS AND TEACHER
ARTISTS AND STAFF MEMBERS WHO GO
TO SCHOOLS AND HELP STUDENTS
PREPARE.

BUT THEY GET THE REAL THING.
AND WE HAVE RELATIONSHIP.

I'LL TELL YOU RELATED STORIES
[INDISCERNIBLE] A WOMAN WHO IS
GOING TO BE DIRECTING A PLAY TWO
MONTH IN THE HUNTINGTON.

WILL BE OWNING IN TWO MONTHS.
IT'S AN AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN
WHO BEGAN HER THEATRICAL LIFE
AND BEGAN A PRODUCTION OF JOE
TURNER AT WE DID IN 1986 AND
LOOKED ON STAGE AND SAID I CAN
BRING MY WORLD AND MY LIFE ON
STAGE.

LISA IS COMING BACK TO DIRECT
WITH US WHO IS A TONY-NOMINATED
DIRECTOR.

WE DON'T NEED TO TURN EVERY
STUDENT IN BOSTON AND IN THE

REGION INTO ARTISTS, WORKING
PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS BUT WE DO
DO THAT AS WELL.

MOST OF WHAT WE'RE DOING IS
DEMONSTRATING FOR PEOPLE ON
STAGE THAT THEIR LIVES, THAT
THEY CAN SEE THEIR LIVES
REFLECTED ON STAGE IN WAYS THAT
MATTER.

AND SO MOST OF OUR PROGRAMS,
SURELY THE MAJORITY OF YOUNG
PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATE IN OUR
EDUCATION PROGRAMS ARE YOUNG
PEOPLE OF COLOR.

MAYBE I'D SAY 30 TO 40% FROM THE
CITY OF BOSTON ITSELF.

BUT THEN WE DO PULL FROM SOME
YOU'LL SIDE THE CITY AND OTHER
SCHOOL SYSTEMS AS WELL.

AND CERTAINLY I THINK IT IS A
TRUE STATEMENT THAT THE
HUNTINGTON IS THE REAL --
PREMIER PRODUCER OF PLAYS BY AND
ABOUT WOMEN AND PEOPLE OF COLOR
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

SO IT IS A SERVICE OF OURS THAT
HAS BEEN FOR DECADES AND IT
CERTAINLY WILL CONTINUE.

>> I REALLY APPRECIATE THAT.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

ARE THERE OTHERS WHO WOULD LIKE
TO TESTIFY?

YES, IF YOU COULD COME TO THE
PODIUM AND PLEASE STATE YOUR
NAME, YOUR ADDRESS AND YOUR
AFFILIATION.

>>

>> HI, COUNCILOR.

MY NAME IS KELLY BRILLIANT THE
DIRECTOR OF THE FENWAY ALLIANCE
AND WE ARE THE 21 CULTURAL AND
ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE
FENWAY.

HUNTINGTON, WE ARE PROUD TO SAY
THE HUNTINGTON THEATRE IS A
MEMBER OF THE ALLIANCE.

I JUST WANT TO SPEAK ON BEHALF
OF THE ALLIANCE.

WE ARE ALSO MANAGERS OF THE
FENWAY CULTURAL DISTRICT WHICH
WAS DESIGNATED A DISTRICT IN
2012 BY THE MASS CULTURAL
COUNCIL AND THEN AGAIN IN 2017
WITH OUR FIVE YEAR RENEWAL.

IN TERMS OF CULTURAL DISTRICT STATUS IN 18998, THEY WERE DESIGNATED A CULTURAL DISTRICT BY THE FORMER MAYOR OF BOSTON, MAYOR MENINO SO WE HAVE A CITY HISTORY OF BEING A CULTURAL DISTRICT AS WELL AS A STATE. WE'RE DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE WORK OF MAYOR WALSH AND HIS TEAM, JOYCE, JOHN AND OTHERS FOR THEIR VISION AND ACHIEVEMENT IN THIS WONDERFUL EFFORT. WE'D LIKE TO ALSO THANK THE DEVELOPER WHO HA SOME VISION AND FORESIGHT TO MAINTAIN THE THEATRE WHICH IS REALLY A CORE OF CULTURAL FACILITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. WE LOVE THE IDEA THAT THE PROPOSAL GOING FORWARD THAT THIS WOULD BE A CULTURAL FACILITY PRETTY MUCH IN PERPETUITY WHICH IS WHAT WE WOULD LIKE. IT IS A HUB OF ACTIVITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. WE'RE BLESSED TO HAVE MANY CULTURE INSTITUTIONS, THE BSO, THE NEW ENGLAND CONSERVE TREE BERKLEY, MASS ART. ALL OF THESE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND WE FEEL THEY ALL CREATE SOMETHING BIGGER THAN JUST INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTIONS ALONE. IN FACT THE THEATRE IS SORT OF A HUB EVEN NOW OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITY SO YOU'LL SEE IT REALLY ACTIVE AT NIGHT WHEN SHOWS ARE GOING ON AND PEOPLE COMING IN AND OUT AND DINING IN THE LOCAL RESTAURANTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. AND WE'RE VERY THRILLED THAT THE THEATRE'S MOVING TO MAKE IT OWN MORE ON COMMUNITY CENTER WITH THEIR NEW BUILDING PLANS. SO I JUST WANTED TO SAY WE SEE THIS AS A WONDERFUL PRIVATE PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF BOSTON IN A WAY TO ENSURE THAT SOMETIMES OUR STRUGGLING CULTURAL FACILITIES IN BOSTON HAVE A LEG UP AND A WAY TO REMAIN. BECAUSE IN MANY WAYS THEY ARE THE BACK BONES OF OUR COMMUNITY

SO THEY HEARTILY SPORT THIS AND
WE THANK YOU -- SUPPORT THIS AND
WE THANK YOU FOR GIVING US TIME
TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF IT.
>> THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING
HERE.
IF THERE ARE NO OTHER PEOPLE
HERE TO THEY.
THIS HEARING IS GOING TO BE
ADJOURNED.zá