

Cambridge Redevelopment Authority

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April 9, 2014

Constantine Alexander, Chair
Cambridge Board of Zoning Appeal
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge MA 02139

Dear Ms. Alexander and Honorable Board Members,

The Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA) would like to voice its full support in favor of Bailey & Sage, in seeking a special permit to locate a fast food establishment at Five Cambridge Center.

As the Board of Zoning Appeal may be aware, an amendment to the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance, applicable to the MXD district in Kendall Square, was recently enacted by the City Council to enable the construction of a major residential and retail development on Ames Street. An important component of that amendment was an increase in the number of Fast Food establishments allowed in the MXD district from 3 to 15.

The CRA was strongly supportive of the provision in the amended Ordinance to increase the number of fast food establishments in Kendall Square. The CRA felt that a relaxation of the "cap" in the MXD district in Kendall Square, would be beneficial to the work culture of the area. We realized that because the Kendall Square workforce was young, energetic, and worked long hours, there was a new demand for fresh, healthy food, available to go.

We especially wanted to encourage small, Massachusetts-owned, food businesses, serving locally sourced, healthy products, to open for business in Kendall Square. We hoped that, because each new Fast Food License required a Special Permit from the BZA, the CRA's support would encourage businesses like Clover and now, Bailey and Sage to locate in the area, in place of more conventional and ubiquitous multi-national fast food operations.

We hope that you will approve the Special Permit application for Bailey & Sage.

Thank you,

Tom Evans

Executive Director
Cambridge Redevelopment Authority