

MINUTES  
**DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION**

May 11, 2021  
Held virtually via Zoom

5:00pm

Project: **11-21 Bromfield Street**, Downtown

Present: Commissioner Deneen Crosby, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis, Commissioner Kirk Sykes

DISCUSSION: This presentation focused on the key questions raised at the last design committee meeting, primarily dealing with choices regarding massing and volume on this site and in context, and the pedestrian experience around the building.

Discussion focused on the relationship to context at ground level, particularly on Bromfield Street, details of building lighting, vertical green space, and impacts on nearby historic assets (light/shadow, wind, etc.). The project will continue in design committee.

6:00pm

Project: **MGH Clinical Cambridge Street Building**, West End

Present: Commissioner Deneen Crosby, Commissioner David Hacin, Commissioner Mikyoung Kim, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis, Commissioner David Manfredi, Commissioner Kirk Sykes

DISCUSSION: At the last meeting on December 15, 2020, Commissioners asked for more understanding of relationship of proposed project to historic context, the North Anderson Arcade, materiality relationship to Cambridge Street, and opportunities to preserve historic buildings on site. This presentation addressed each of these topics.

Commissioners raised issue with the pedestrian experience under the building overhang. Cambridge Street experience is not friendly today, and this project does not seem to offer an improved condition. The building does not engage historic neighborhood, which is an issue of programming more than it is of architecture. Commissioners also questioned the preservation of the corner of the school building as shown in renderings—it seems too small to have intended design impact, and it would be improved if the historic fragment had more space or a larger portion preserved.

Public comments were concerned with public access and circulation through site and building. The project will continue in design committee.