

City of Waltham

Jeannette A. McCarthy
Mayor

January 18, 2018

Ms. Mary Pichetti
Director of Capital Planning
MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY
40 Broad Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02109

Re: Waltham HS - Request to Extension of Termination Date of Feasibility Study Agreement

Dear Ms. Pichetti:

The City of Waltham, Waltham Public Schools, and the Waltham High School Building Committee have been actively engaged over the past two years in diligently working to fulfill the obligations and requirements of the Feasibility Study Agreement (FSA) between the MSBA and the City of Waltham for the new Waltham High School (WHS). At this time, we remain resolute in pursuing and selecting the optimum project site and preferred schematic alternative. And whereas the term of the FSA (Article 2.2) is due to expire on March 31, 2018, we respectfully request an extension of the termination date of the agreement until October 31, 2018 so that the project team can continue to complete the extremely pivotal task of selecting the site for the new WHS and subsequently completing the necessary requirements to achieve approval of the Project Scope and Budget Agreement (PSBA).

We believe we are in a position to complete the following tasks on this timeline:

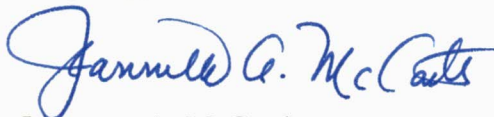
PSR Submission	May 9, 2018
FAS Meeting	May 23, 2018
Board Meeting	June 27, 2018
Schematic Design Submission	September 12, 2018
FAS Meeting	September 26 or October 10, 2018
Board Meeting	October 31, 2018

As you have been made aware during our conversations and meetings, developing consensus among all project stakeholders on the selection of a preferred site has been arduous. Collectively, the City, including its council, school committee, school administration and high school building committee have investigated all possible city sites, evaluating size, zoning, environmental and historical concerns, etc., but have not yet been able to agree on a site. Site selection is the dominant factor in requesting this extension. This decision will be coming to a close soon and we have consulted our design team who believe we can hit the above benchmarks once a site is selected.

The District has an exemplary Education Program, and we see changes neither to this document, nor to our Chapter 74 programming over the foreseeable future. Furthermore, we anticipate no significant revisions to the previously submitted/approved Preliminary Design Program (PDP). While we do anticipate changes to the FSA budget, until such time as the site is selected and the options within that site can be further evaluated, I would respectfully submit that I will need to update the MSBA to that potentially revised budget upon further consultation with the City and project team.

We sincerely appreciate all that the MSBA and its project specific team have done to assist us thus far on the project. The guidance and assistance from the MSBA has been very reassuring and we will come to a decision on the site very soon. We will continue to do what is best for the students of Waltham, and again we respectfully request the approval of the MSBA Board of Directors to extending the term of the FSA.

Sincerely,



Jeannette A. McCarthy
Mayor

cc: Drew Echelson, Ed. D – Superintendent of Schools
Waltham School Committee
Lorraine Finnegan, SMMA
Bill Cunniff, NV5