

October 13, 2021

Constantine Alexander
Chair of the Board of Zoning Appeal
Inspectional Services Department
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: **Support for the 55 Norfolk Financial Opportunity Center Project proposed by Just-A-Start**
ZBA application number (149063)

To Whom It May Concern:

The Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA) is writing in support of Just-A-Start's (JAS) 55 Norfolk Financial Opportunity Center project application. The project was awarded a 2019 CRA Forward Fund Community Capital Infrastructure grant award for one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) THE CRA and its Forward Fund award commit sponsored this project because the project's program proposes to help close the gaps in services reported in the City of Cambridge's Envision Cambridge and Community Needs Assessment reports. The Financial Opportunity Center will help address, community challenges regarding economic development, financial security, and access to opportunity.

The CRA is enthusiastic with the project moving forward and anticipated completion within the upcoming year. We look forward to the services and opportunities the Financial Opportunity Center will provide to the community, with a particular focus on community members with low to moderate incomes.

Please feel free to contact Program Manager Carlos Peralta should you have any questions at (617) 492-6801x14 or at cperalta@cambridgeredevelopment.org.

Sincerely,



Thomas L. Evans
Executive Director
Cambridge Redevelopment Authority

cc: Noah Sawyer, Just-A-Start Director of Real Estate