

# The Preservation Society of Fall River

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August 11, 2020

Dear members of the City Council,

In regards to the potential sale of the former Central Police Station at 158 Bedford Street, members of the Preservation Society were pleased to hear details about the vetting process for bidders as well as the conditions included in the purchase and sale agreement presented at the Committee on Real Estate meeting on July 29, 2020.

It is our organization's belief that every sale of city property, historic or not, be approached the same way to always ensure the best outcome for the city.

With a purchase and sale agreement already partially signed, we request additional details on what processes are in place for municipal follow-up and enforcement of the purchase and sale agreement.

In the past, purchase and sale agreements for city sales of historic buildings have also included conditions to ensure project completion or that the city is properly compensated, if otherwise. Unfortunately, a lack of oversight and follow through has allowed for multiple properties to fall short of their promised redevelopment proposals without consequence.

As witnessed with the missing purchase and sale agreements for the N.B. Borden School and Healy School, conditions of sale and provisions to protect the city only extend as far as the city's follow-up and enforcement of the purchase and sale agreement.

It is with that in mind that the Preservation Society requests more information on what processes are in place to ensure the city's best interests are protected.

Sincerely,

The Preservation Society of Fall River, Inc.  
Board of Directors  
508-361-2714