

The Preservation Society of Fall River

P: 508-673-4841 E: psfallriver@gmail.com Web: psfallriver.org



July 29, 2020

Dear members of the City Council Committee on Real Estate,

The Preservation Society of Fall River is pleased the city has received a bid for the redevelopment of the former Central Police Station at 158 Bedford Street.

However, as a purchase and sale agreement is already partially signed, our members would like more information on what conditions of sale are included in the draft agreement and what the vetting process for bidders is.

We requested information on the vetting process from Attorney Matt Thomas almost two months ago and have not received any details as to the requirements.

In the past, city sales of historic buildings have included numerous conditions of sale to ensure the project is completed or the city is compensated. Unfortunately, a lack of oversight and follow-up has allowed for multiple properties to fall short of their promised redevelopment without consequence.

Additionally, our Board of Directors was surprised to learn that the city had only briefly advertised the sale of 158 Bedford Street in the state's Central Register and not any other mediums typically used for development projects such as these.

Members of the Preservation Society believe that its essential to comprehensively market these historic resources to ensure an outcome in the best interests of Fall River and its residents.

Sincerely,

The Preservation Society of Fall River, Board of Directors
Jim Soule, President
508-361-2714