

Ms. Cara Metz
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
The Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

April 29, 2004

Dear Ms. Metz,

The Boston Preservation Alliance is writing regarding Carpenter & Company's application for the Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit for the Charles Street Jail project. The state tax credit is essential to assure the revitalization of this long-languishing and nationally important building.

The Alliance has reviewed the application and believes strongly it meets the criteria outlined in the regulations. The project addresses the following points:

- The project will stabilize, rehabilitate, and reuse this nationally significant building. Listed on the National Register, this building, designed by Gridley J. F. Bryant, is significant as the best example of Boston Granite School architecture.
- This project may represent the only viable reuse for this building. If this project is not completed, the future of the Charles Street Jail is uncertain
- The state tax credit represents the final piece of financing needed to move the important project forward.
- The project has received its part 2 certification from the National Park Service and is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.
- The project is public transit oriented, located directly opposite of the MBTA's MGH Redline Station.
- The project will generate more than \$2.8 million in state income and sales taxes during construction. An additional \$30.7 million in state hotel room excise taxes, sales taxes and income taxes will be generated in the projects first ten years. This project will have a significant economic impact on the city of Boston and the Commonwealth.

The Alliance urges you to strongly consider the Charles Street Jail project for the Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit.

Sincerely,

Albert Rex
Executive Director