



LOCUST CLUB PROPERTIES UPDATE

June 26, 2008

We are pleased to report that in early June, the Philadelphia Zoning Board of Adjustment approved The Curtis Institute of Music's application for the zoning variances needed to proceed with our plans to build a new facility at 1610 – 1618 Locust Street, encompassing teaching and rehearsal spaces and residences for a portion of our student body. Curtis is grateful for the support we have received from our community and from neighborhood organizations over recent months. Input from our neighbors has helped us to identify a design and structure that is consistent with the unique character of this beautiful Philadelphia block and its surroundings.

Our architects, Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates, will complete design development this summer. Our development firm, Razak Co., will represent Curtis during the pre-construction and construction of the project to ensure a safe and stable construction environment. Curtis is in the final selection process for a construction manager and shortly will make that announcement to the community. Preconstruction activities will include environmental work and historic façade stabilization.

Mayor Michael Nutter recently spoke to the Philadelphia Planning Commission, articulating several core values that make Philadelphia unique, and by which future developments in Philadelphia should be measured. His inspiring remarks in support of city planning cited Philadelphia's walkability, its respect for history, and the character of its neighborhoods as invaluable assets. He further stressed the careful integration of new development within existing neighborhoods, sustainability, and the value of thoughtful design in achieving these aims. We at Curtis fully support these values and look forward to realizing them in the neighborhood we have called home for 84 years.

Look for further updates on the Locust Club Properties site at www.curtis.edu.

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