## Charter Realty & Development Corp. Leases to Whole Foods in Melrose, MA

Charter Realty & Development Corp. is pleased to announce that shortly after acquiring Towers Plaza in Melrose, MA, that it has signed a 20 year lease for 29,980sf to Whole Foods Market. Whole Foods will occupy the store that is currently Johnny's Foodmaster. The store will undergo a major renovation that will coincide with Charter's renovation of the balance of the center.

Melrose Mayor, Rob Dolan, recently welcomed Whole Foods Market to Melrose. "On behalf of the citizens of Melrose, I would like to welcome Whole Foods to the community. I am excited that Whole Foods has chosen Melrose as a location as they expand their presence into the greater Boston area."

Whole Foods Market, which emphasizes "natural and organic products", is a supermarket chain that was founded in Austin, Texas, in 1980. Today they are the world's leader in natural and organic foods, with more than 310 stores in North America and the United Kingdom and are ranked the ninth largest food and drug store in the United States. Whole Foods has been ranked among the most socially responsible businesses and placed third on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's list of Top 25 Green Power Partners.

Towers Plaza is the newest part of Charter Realty's extensive Shopping Center portfolio. Charter currently owns or leases over 12 million square feet of shopping centers throughout the East. For more information on our company and projects, visit our website at <u>www.chartweb.com</u>.

