Neighborhood Snapshots Mpi

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT





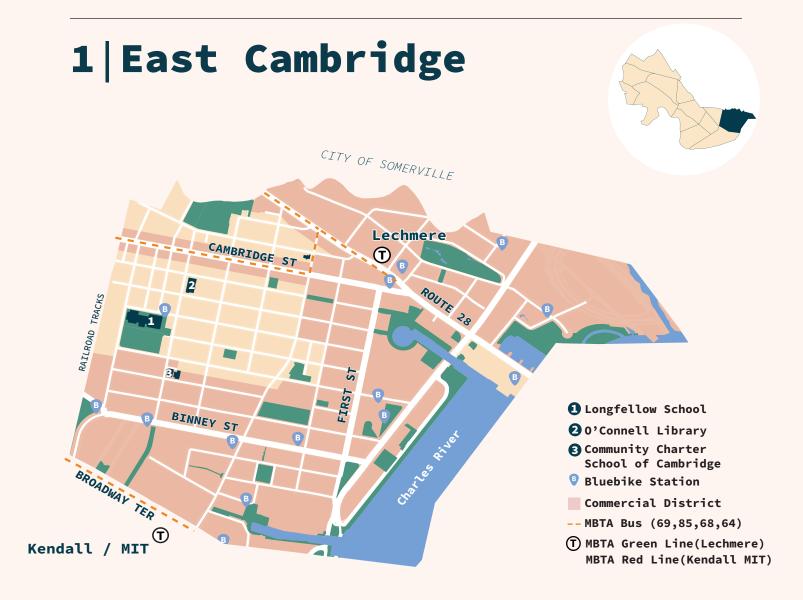




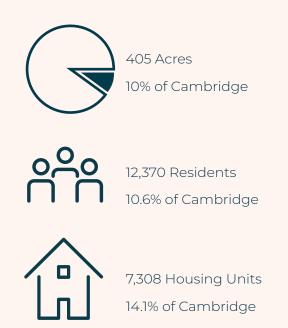
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Photos: Kyle Klein



East Cambridge, a neighborhood of about thirteen thousand residents, is bounded by Somerville to the north, the Charles River to the east, the Boston & Albany Railroad tracks to the west, and Kendall Square to the south. The southern part of East Cambridge serves as home to many offices and research labs, as well as several large apartment buildings. The Charles River waterfront contains hotels, luxury apartment buildings, high-tech businesses, a regional shopping mall, and the Boston Museum of Science. The upper part of East Cambridge, bordering Charlestown and Somerville, includes a mixed use development area known as Cambridge Crossing.



Population Growth

From 2000-2021, East Cambridge saw a **69.6% increase in population.**

Land Use

East Cambridge has a mix of uses, with about 26% commercial, 21% residential, 9% mixed use, 13% open space, and 11% government or other institution.

Community Resources

include 14 parks and playgrounds, 2 schools, 1 library, and access to the Charles River.

Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in East Cambridge include the **East Cambridge Planning Team.**

What's going on?

Construction is currently underway for **Triangle Park** and **Binney Street Park** in East Cambridge.



Shopping areas

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East Cambridge includes portions of the **North Point**, **East Cambridge**, and **Kendall Square** commercial districts.

Getting around

East Cambridge is served by 14 Bluebike stations, the MBTA Red

Resilience

The 2018 Cambridge Urban Forest Snapshot identified East Cambridge as having **low levels of tree canopy relative to the rest of the city** (13% tree cover).

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for East Cambridge was in **2006**.

Looking for more?



Visit the City's neighborhood planning website: www.camb.ma/npi

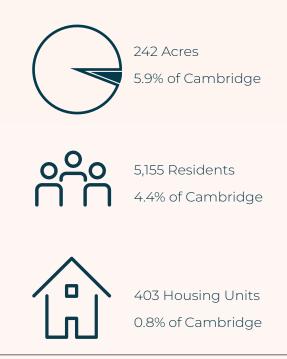
Line, and 4 MBTA bus routes.

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Area 2 is bounded to the north by Broadway and Main Streets, to the east by the Charles River and to the west by the Boston & Albany Railroad tracks. It is almost entirely occupied by the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Area 2 contains the core of MIT's academic and research facilities, as well as most of MIT's student housing. The vast majority of the neighborhood's residents are undergraduate or graduate students living in MIT dormitories or fraternities. The major commercial and transit center for the neighborhood is at Kendall Square, and the Charles River Reservation serves as the neighborhood's largest public recreational resource. The Harvard Bridge (Massachusetts Avenue) and Longfellow Bridge (Main Street) connect the neighborhood to the City of Boston.





Student Population

Area 2/MIT is home to many students. About 77% of residents are under age 25.

Land Use



Area 2/MIT is mostly academic institutions, with nearly 80% of its land area made up of institutional uses, 11% commercial, and only 1% residential.

Community Resources

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include 3 public parks and playgrounds. The Charles River Reservation serves as the largest recreational space.



Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in East Cambridge include the **Alchemists.** Nearly all of the residential dwellings in Area 2 / MIT are

occupied by renters.

Renters



Shopping areas



Area 2/MIT includes portions of the **Kendall Square**, **Central Square**, and **Lower Cambridgeport** commercial districts.

Historic areas

Area 2/MIT is home to the Fort Washington Historic District.

Getting around



East Cambridge is served by **9 Bluebike** stations, the MBTA Red Line, and 5 MBTA bus routes.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Area 2/MIT was in **2006**.



Looking for more?



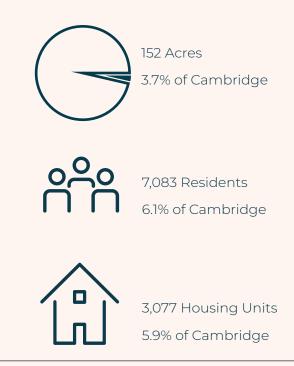
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Wellington-Harrington is the smallest neighborhood in Cambridge, but very dense with a population of approximately seven thousand residents. It is bordered by the City of Somerville to the north, Hampshire Street to the south, and the Grand Junction railroad to the East. The neighborhood includes Inman Square, other commercial areas along Cambridge Street, and the One Kendall Square complex providing a range of retail stores and office space.





At more than **47** residents per acre,

Wellington-Harrington is one of the densest areas of Cambridge.

Land Use



Wellington-Harrington is a predominantly residential neighborhood, with about 56% residential, 17% commercial, 15% institutional or government uses, and 1% open space.

Community Resources

include 5 public parks and playgrounds, 2 schools, and 1 library.

Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in Wellington-Harrington include the Inman Square Neighborhood Association and the Wellington-Harrington Neighborhood Association.

What's going on?

The Our Cambridge Street Plan finished in 2023 and the Inman Square Intersection Improvements Project is underway.



Shopping areas

Resilience



Wellington-Harrington includes portions of the **Inman Square** and **Kendall Square** commercial districts.

Getting around

Wellington-Harrington is served by **5 Bluebike** stations and **5 MBTA bus** routes.



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Wellington-Harrington as has the highest percentage of **Heat Islands** and among the lowest tree canopy cover in Cambridge.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Wellington-Harrington was in **2009**.



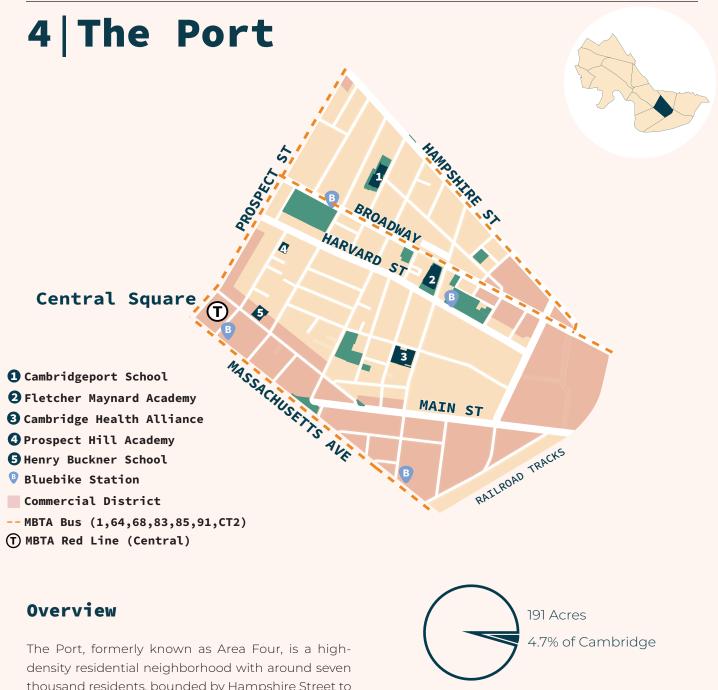
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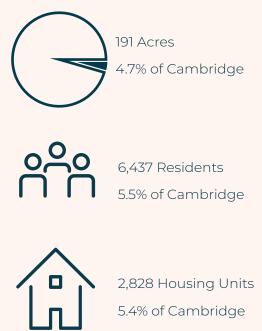
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thousand residents, bounded by Hampshire Street to the north, the Boston & Albany Railroad to the east, Prospect Street to the west, and Massachusetts Avenue to the south. The major commercial center and transit center of The Port lies in Central Square with the main commercial strip along the Massachusetts Avenue edge, while smaller commercial areas exist along Main Street, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street. Most of The Port is residential in character, with some areas toward the southern part of the neighborhood home to high-tech labs and offices as well as facilities for the neighboring Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



The Port is one of the densest neighborhoods in Cambridge, with about **34 persons per acre.**

Land Use



The Port is a predominantly residential neighborhood, with about 52% residential, 26% commercial, 9% institutional or government uses, and 4% open space.

Community Resources

include 8 public parks and playgrounds, 4 schools, and the Cambridge Health Alliance.

Getting around

The Port is served by **4 Bluebike** stations, the MBTA Red Line, and **7** MBTA bus routes.



What's going on?

Active projects include the **Port Infrastructure Project** and the **Hampshire Street Safety Improvement Project**.



Shopping areas

The Port includes portions of the **Central Square**, **Osborn Triangle**, and **Kendall Square** commercial districts.





Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in the Port include the **Tremont Street Neighborhood Association** and the **Essex Street Neighbors**.

Resilience

84% of the Port neighborhood was identified in the 2021 Resilient Cambridge Plan as **'heat islands'** (areas that are hotter than the areas around them, often due to low tree cover and lots of paved surfaces).

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for the Port was in **2010**.

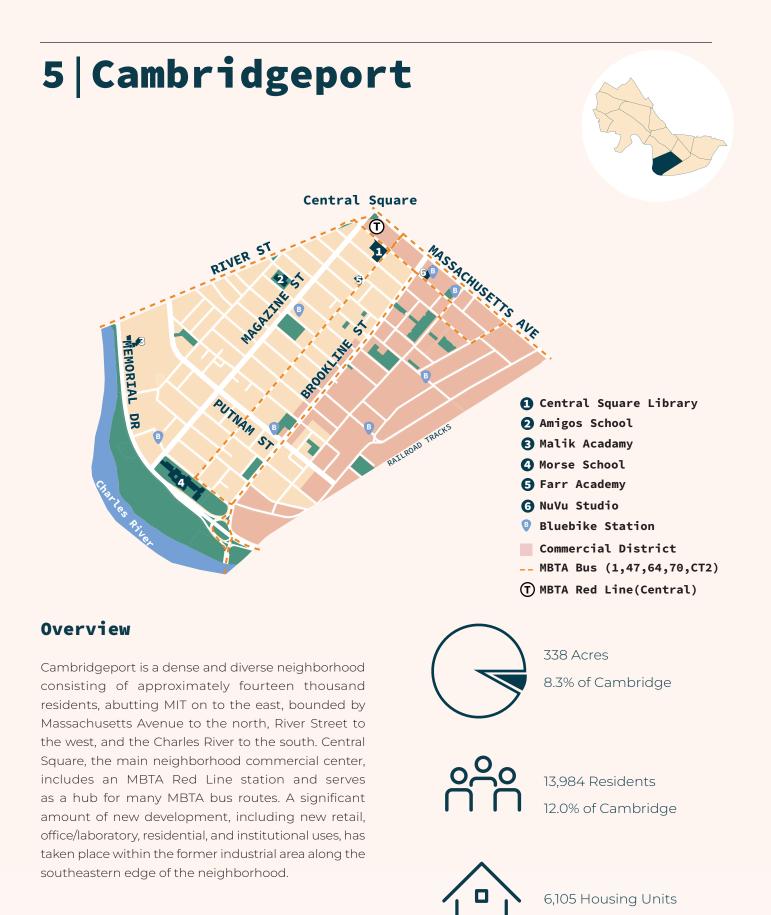
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11.7% of Cambridge

Built Fabric



Nearly half of the dwellings in Cambridgeport are buildings that are **more** than 26 units in size.

Land Use



Community Resources

include 13 public parks and playgrounds, 5 schools, and 1 library.

Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in Cambridgeport include the Cambridgeport Neighborhood Association.

What's going on?

Active projects include the Grand Junction Multiuse Path, River Street Reconstruction, and Charles River Bridges Reconstruction.



Shopping areas

Cambridgeport contains portions of the **Central Square** and **Lower Cambridgeport** commercial districts.



Getting around



Cambridgeport is served by **7** Bluebike stations, the MBTA Red Line, and **5 MBTA bus routes**.

Central Square Planning

Recent planning efforts for Central Square include the **Central Square Market Profile** (2021), and the **Central Square Small Retailers and Restaurants Map** (2020), and the **Central Square District Assessment Report** (2018).

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Cambridgeport was in **2010**.

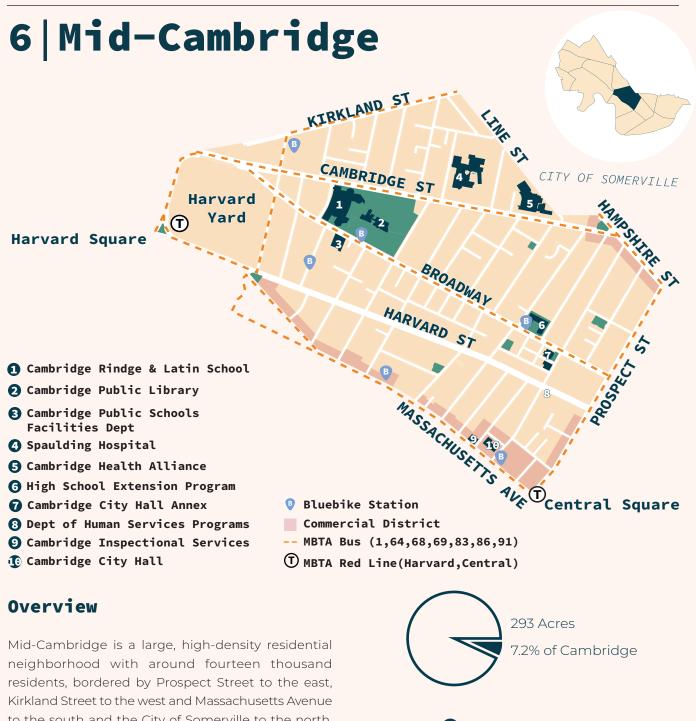
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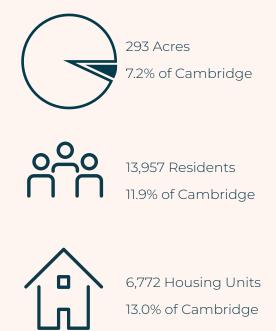
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Mid-Cambridge is a large, high-density residential neighborhood with around fourteen thousand residents, bordered by Prospect Street to the east, Kirkland Street to the west and Massachusetts Avenue to the south and the City of Somerville to the north. Major commercial centers lie at three corners of the neighborhood: Central Square, Harvard Square, and Inman Square. Central Square and Harvard Square also serve as major transit stations. Massachusetts Avenue, which connects the two squares, is a major travel route and commercial spine. Many institutions have a presence in Mid-Cambridge, including Harvard University, Cambridge Hospital, Youville Hospital, the Cambridge Public Library, and Cambridge City Hall.





Neighborhood Organizations

At more than **48 residents per acre**, Mid-Cambridge is one of the densest areas of Cambridge.

Neighborhood organizations

in Mid-Cambridge include the

Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood



Mid-Cambridge is a predominantly residential neighborhood with many government, hospital, and university facilities. About 60% is residential, 31% government or institutional uses, 2% mixed use, and 1% open space.

Historic areas

Mid-Cambridge is home to portions of the **Old Cambridge Historic District** and the **Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District**.

Community Resources

include 5 public parks and playgrounds, 2 schools, 1 library, health services, and City Hall buildings.



Shopping areas

Association.

Mid-Cambridge includes portions of the **Harvard Square**, **Central Square**, and **Inman Square** commercial districts.

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Getting around

Mid-Cambridge is served by **6 Bluebike stations**, the **MBTA Red Line**, and **7 MBTA bus routes**.

Institutions

Major landmarks include **Cambridge City Hall**, the main branch of the **Public Library**, **Cambridge Hospital**, **Harvard University**, and the City's public high school, **Cambridge Rindge and Latin**.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Mid-Cambridge was in **2011**.

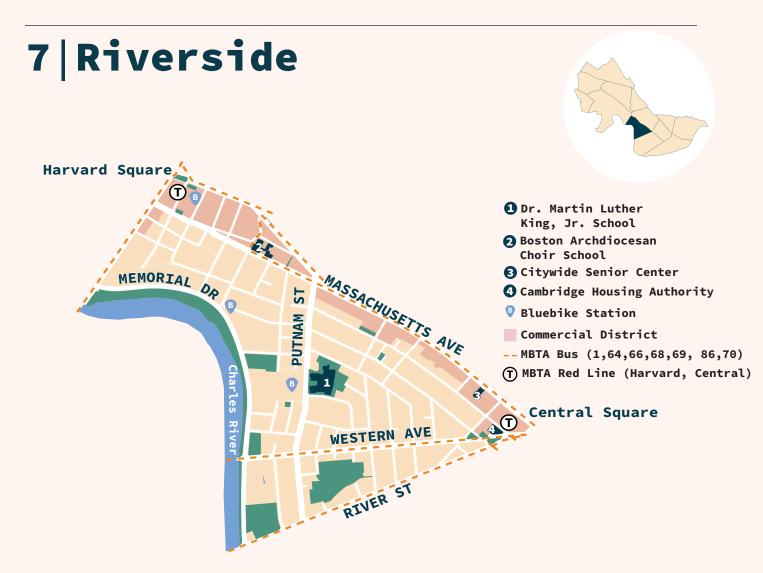
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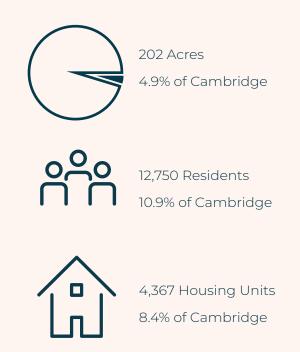
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Riverside is a residential neighborhood located along the Charles River, which includes some of the oldest, settled parts of Cambridge. Harvard Square and Central Square, both major commercial and transit centers, lie at either end of the neighborhood. Massachusetts Avenue, which connects the two squares, serves as the neighborhood's retail center. Smaller commercial areas exist along Putnam Avenue, Western Avenue and River Street. Much of Harvard University's student housing is located in Riverside. Riverside is also home to some of Harvard's academic facilities and the primary academic and administrative facility for Cambridge College.



At approximately



63 residents per acre, Riverside is Cambridge's densest neighborhood.



Riverside is a predominantly residential neighborhood, with about 41% residential, 30% government or institutional uses, 12% open space, 8% commercial, and 6% mixed use.



Community Resources

include 6 public parks and playgrounds, 2 schools. 1 Senior Center, and 1 Housing Authority.



Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in Riverside include the Riverside Neighborhood Association

Renters

Approximately **70%** of Riverside residents rent their homes.



Shopping areas

Riverside includes portions of the Harvard Square and Central Square commercial districts.

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Getting around

Riverside is served by 4 **Bluebike Stations, the MBTA** Red Line, and 7 MBTA bus routes.

Historic areas

Riverside contains some of the oldest settlements in Cambridge. It includes portions of the Harvard **Square Neighborhood Conservation District.**

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Riverside was in 2011.

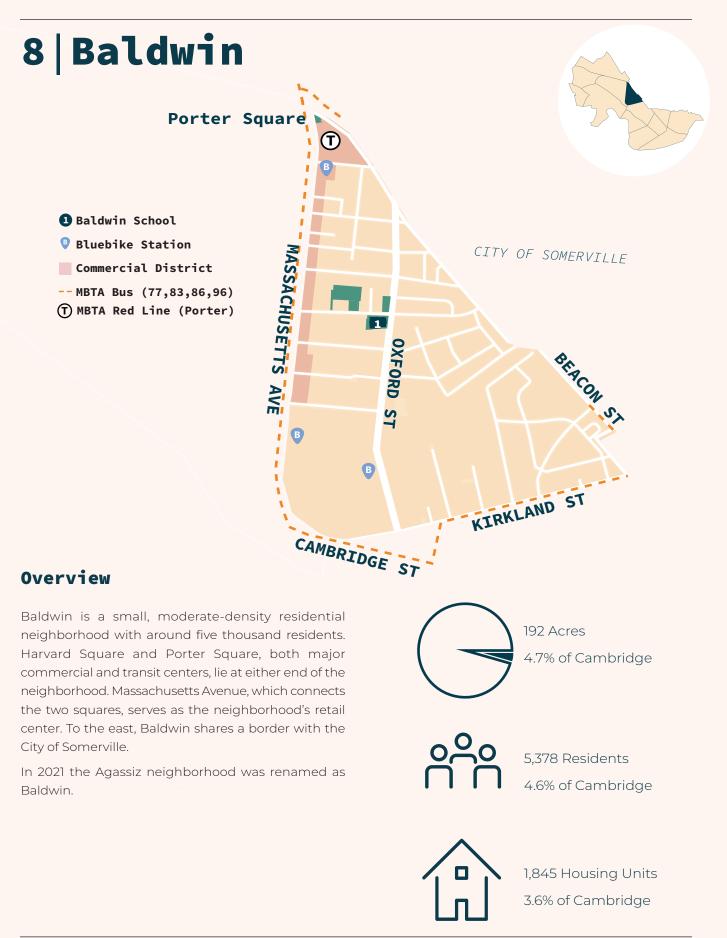
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Baldwin is a moderatedensity neighborhood, with approximately **28 residents per acre**.



Baldwin is home to many Harvard University facilities, with about 50% government or institutional uses, 44% residential, 3% mixed use, 1% commercial, and 1% open space.



include 2 public parks and playgrounds and 1 school.

Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in Riverside include the **Baldwin Neighborhood Council** and the **North of Harvard Neighbors**.

Historic areas

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Baldwin is home to portions of the **Old Cambridge Historic District**.



Shopping areas

Baldwin contains portions of the **Lower Mass. Ave** commercial district.

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Getting around

Baldwin is served by 2 Bluebike stations, the MBTA Red Line, and 4 MBTA bus routes.

Universities

Universities are a major presence in the Baldwin neighborhood, which contains academic and student housing facilities for both **Harvard University** and **Lesley University**.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Baldwin was in **2008**.

Looking for more?



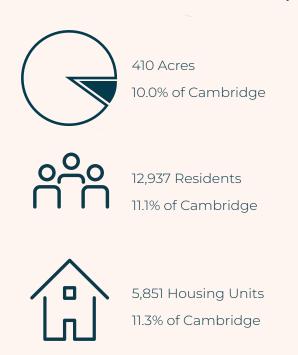
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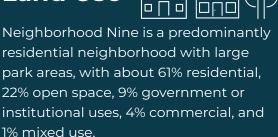
Neighborhood Nine is a moderate-density residential neighborhood with around thirteen thousand residents. Harvard Square and Porter Square, both major commercial and transit centers, lie at two corners of the neighborhood. Massachusetts Avenue, which connects the two squares, is one of the neighborhood's main commercial areas. The Fresh Pond Shopping Center provides a regional commercial area to the western edge. A smaller commercial strip exists along Concord Avenue. Harvard University is a presence in the neighborhood, with both academic and student housing. Danehy Park, a 50-acre park built on the site of the former city landfill, is also located in Neighborhood Nine.





Neighborhood Nine is a moderate-density neighborhood, with approximately **32 residents per acre**.





Community Resources

include 7 public parks and playgrounds and 4 schools.

Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations include the **Porter Square Neighbors Association**, **Taylor Square Neighborhood Association**, and 3 listservs: Buena Vista Social Club, Richdale Avenue, and North Commons.

Renters+Owners

Neighborhood Nine is a mix of owners and renters. Approximately **60%** of units are renter-occupied and approximately **40%** are owner-occupied.



Shopping areas

Neighborhood Nine includes portions of the Concord Alewife/ Fresh Pond, Huron Village/ Observatory Hill, Porter Square/ North Mass. Ave, and Lower Mass. Ave commercial districts.



Neighborhood Nine is served by **5 Bluebike stations**, the **MBTA Red Line** and **7 MBTA bus routes**.

Historic areas

Neighborhood Nine is home to historic landmarks, including Revolutionary War memorials in Cambridge Common. It includes portions of the **Old Cambridge Historic District** and the **Avon Hill Neighborhood Conservation District**.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Neighborhood Nine was in **2010**.



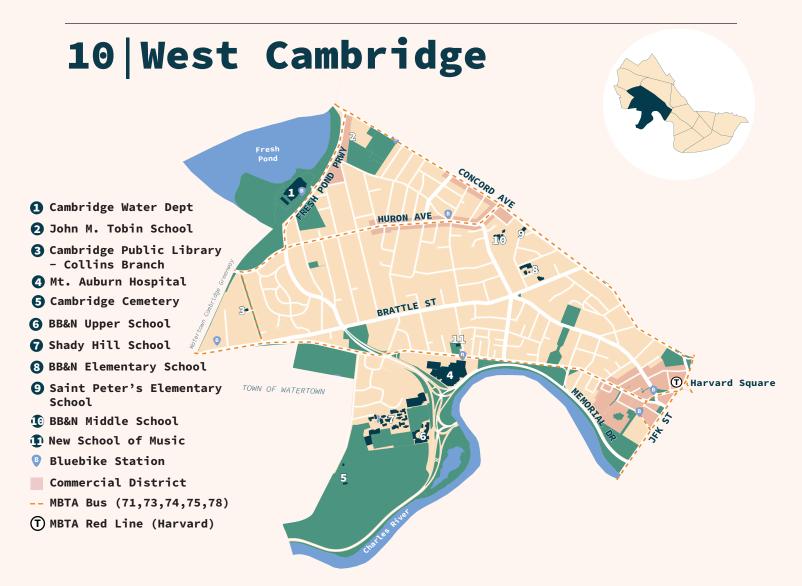
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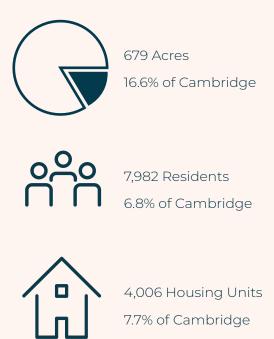
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West Cambridge, also referred to as Neighborhood Ten, is a relatively low-density residential neighborhood with about eight thousand residents. The major commercial and transit center in West Cambridge is Harvard Square, while smaller commercial areas exist along Huron Avenue, Concord Avenue, and Mt. Auburn Street. The neighborhood is located west of Harvard Square and bordered by Concord Avenue, the Charles River, Fresh Pond Reservation, and a portion of the CSX railroad line. Historic Mount Auburn Cemetery is located at the southwestern edge of the neighborhood.





of the least dense areas of Cambridge.

Land Use

West Cambridge is a predominantly residential neighborhood with large areas of open space, with about 47% residential, 20% open space, 13% government or institutional uses, and 5% commercial.

include 11 public parks and playgrounds, 7 schools, the Water Department. and Mt. Auburn

Community

Resources



Neighborhood organizations in West Cambridge include the Fresh Pond **Residents Alliance** and the Harvard Square Neighborhood Association.

Historic areas

West Cambridge is home and portions of the Old **Cambridge Historic** District.

Hospital. 3

Shopping areas

West Cambridge includes portions of the Harvard Square, Huron Village/Observatory Hill, and Concord Alewife/Fresh Pond Commercial Districts.



Getting around

West Cambridge is served by 6 Bluebike stations, the MBTA Red Line, and 5 MBTA bus routes.



Tree Canopy

Neighborhood planning

At **37%**, West Cambridge has the highest rate of tree canopy of any Cambridge neighborhood.

The last neighborhood plan for

West Cambridge was in 2007.



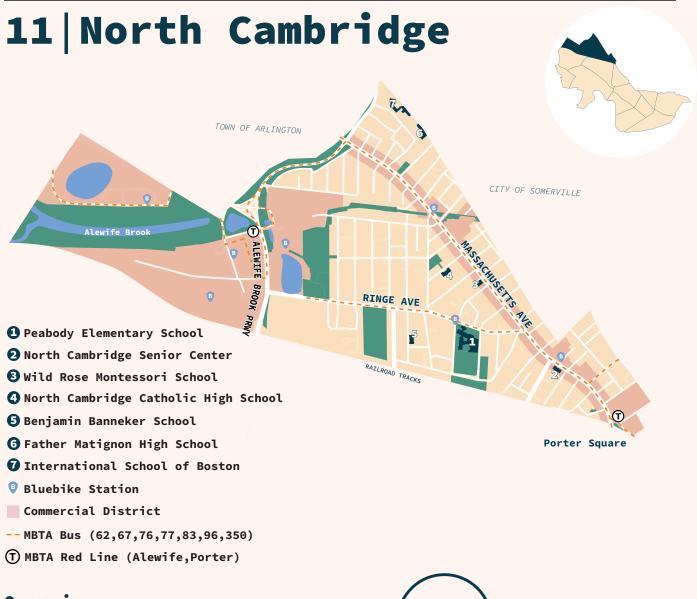
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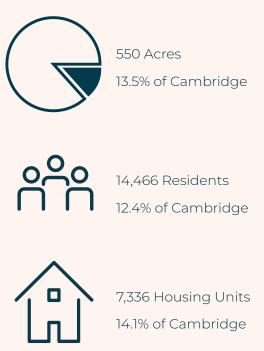
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North Cambridge, located at the northernmost part of the city bordering Somerville, Arlington, and Belmont, is a neighborhood of approximately fourteen thousand residents living in housing types ranging from single and multi-family homes to large apartment buildings. Porter Square, at the southeastern corner of the neighborhood, is a main commercial and transit center with Red Line, commuter rail and bus stations. The main avenue through North Cambridge is Massachusetts Avenue, which extends from Porter Square to the Arlington border and features a variety of retail, office, and residential uses and types. At the western end of the neighborhood is the MBTA Alewife Red Line station and an adjacent office/industrial area along Cambridgepark Drive.





At approximately **26 residents per acre**,

North Cambridge is a moderately-dense neighborhood.



North Cambridge is a predominantly residential neighborhood, with about 49% residential, 17% open space, 13% commercial, and 3% government or institutional uses.

Community Resources

14 public parks and playgrounds, 6 schools, and 1 Senior Center.

Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in North Cambridge include the **North Cambridge Stabilization Committee** and the **Alewife Study Group.**

Getting around

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North Cambridge is served by **7 Bluebike** stations, the MBTA Red Line, and 7 MBTA bus routes, as well as the start of the Minuteman Bike Path.



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Shopping areas

North Cambridge includes portions of the **Concord Alewife/Fresh Pond** and **Porter Square/North Mass. Ave** commercial districts.



What's going on? (

Active projects include **improvements** to the Belmont, Cambridge, Somerville paths. The Alewife District Plan was completed in 2019 and drives the vision for the Alewife area.

Resilience



The 2021 Resilient Cambridge plan identified North Cambridge as one of the city's neighborhoods most likely to be impacted by sea level rise / flooding.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for North Cambridge was in **2008**.

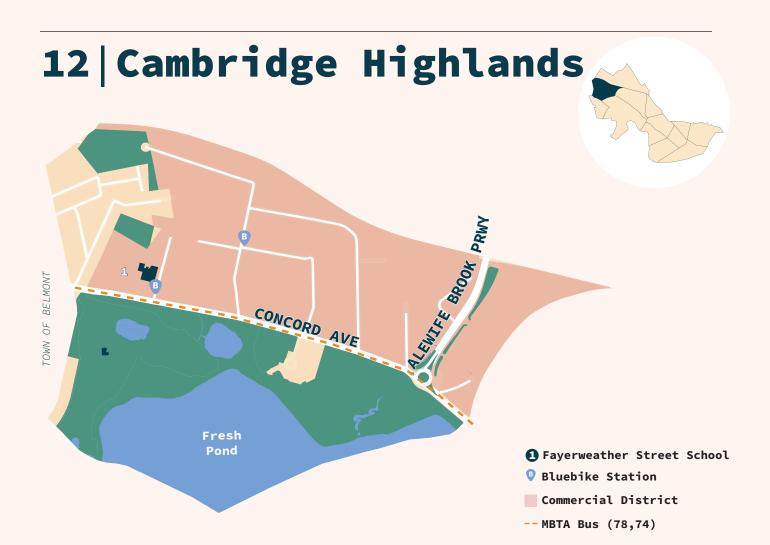




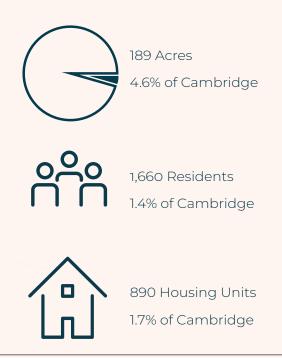
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The Cambridge Highlands neighborhood, located on the northeastern edge of the city, is comprised of two distinct areas. The eastern part consists of mostly commercial and light industrial uses. A strip mall-style regional retail center is located here, alongside the Alewife Brook Parkway (State Route 2) and near the MBTA Alewife Red Line Station in North Cambridge. A wide corridor of railroad lines is the northern border of the neighborhood, which divides the adjacent office/industrial area into two parts, known as the "Triangle" (officially part of North Cambridge) and the "Quadrangle" (officially part of the Cambridge Highlands). The residential core of the neighborhood lies at its western end, bordering Belmont. The Fresh Pond Reservation borders the neighborhood to the south.





At approximately 9 **residents per acre**, Cambridge Highlands is one of the least dense areas of Cambridge.

Land Use

With Fresh Pond a large section of the neighborhood, Cambridge Highlands is about 47% open space, 20% commercial, 13% residential, and 3% government or institutional use.



include 4 parks and playgrounds, including Fresh Pond Reservation and 1 school.

Neighborhood Organizations

Neighborhood organizations in Cambridge Highlands include the **Cambridge Highlands** Neighborhood Association.

What's going on?

Active projects include the **Belmont, Cambridge,** and Somerville bike path projects.



Shopping areas

Cambridge Highlands includes portions of the **Concord Alewife/Fresh Pond** commercial district.



Getting around

Cambridge Highlands is served by **2 Bluebike** stations and **2 MBTA** bus routes.



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Renters

The majority of Cambridge Highlands residents are renters. Approximately **75%** of housing units are renter-occupied and approximately **25%** are owner-occupied.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Cambridge Highlands was in **2011**.



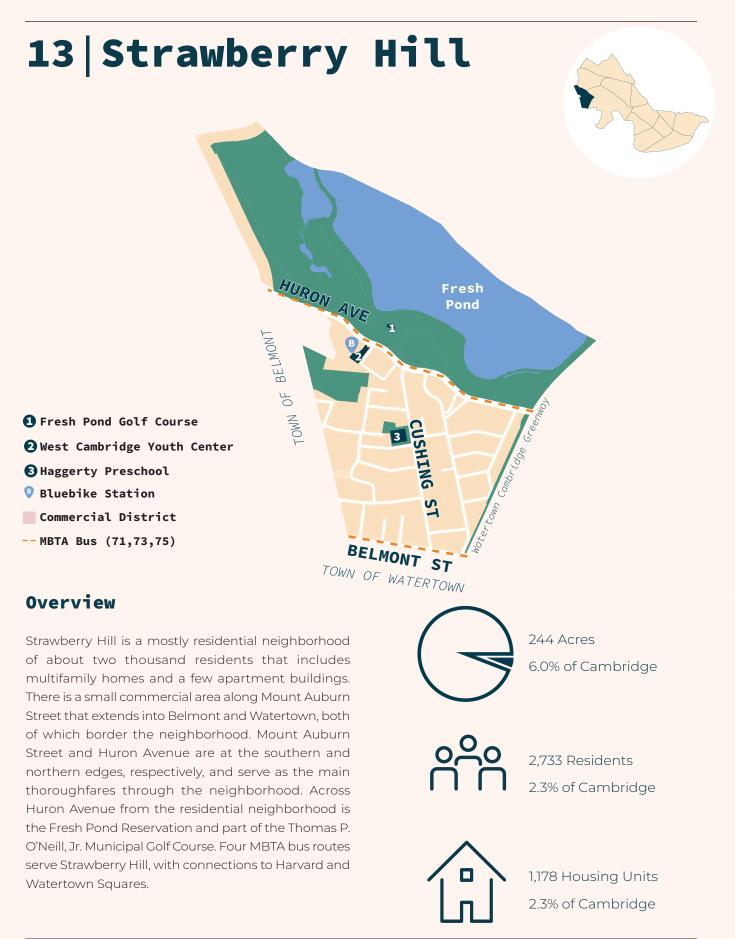
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for more?

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Youth Quildents

Nearly **21%** of Strawberry Hill residents are under age 18, compared to 12% citywide.

Strawberry Hill is served by 1

Bluebike station and 3 MBTA

Land Use

About 60% of Strawberry Hill is open space, 34% is residential, 1% is government or institutional, and less than 1% is commercial.

What's

going on?

completed in 2021.

The Watertown Cambridge

Greenway was completed in

2022 and the Glacken Field &

Playground renovation was



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include 3 public parks and playgrounds, Fresh Pond and the golf course, 1 Youth Center, and 2 schools.

Community

Resources



Shopping areas

Getting

Around

bus routes.



Strawberry Hill does not have any officiallydesignated commercial districts, but there is a small commercial area along **Mt. Auburn Street.**

Tree Coverage

The Strawberry Hill neighborhood benefits from abundant natural areas at Fresh Pond and has the **second-highest rate of tree coverage** of all Cambridge neighborhoods.

Neighborhood planning

The last neighborhood plan update for Strawberry Hill was in **2007**.

Density



Looking for more?



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