

HEARING SCHEDULE
CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 25, 2002

Monday, February 25, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)
Thursday, February 28, 2002	11:00 A.M.	The Economic Development, Training and Employment Committee will conduct a public meeting for the purpose of a general overview and assessment of Economic Development issues in the city. (Ackermann Room)
Thursday, February 28, 2002	6:00 P.M.	Special City Council Meeting between the City Council and School Committee (Walter J. Sullivan Water Purification Facility, 1st floor Conference Room, 250 Fresh Pond Parkway)
Monday, March 4, 2002	5:00 P.M.	<i>Special Presentation</i> <i>Cambridge Yerevan Sister City</i> <i>Association</i> (Mayor's Office)
Monday, March 4, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Roundtable Meeting Review of the City Council goals established in its last goal setting process. Informal meeting with no public comment, at which time no votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)
Monday, March 18, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

City of Cambridge does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The City Council will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to person with disabilities upon request. Contact the Office of the City Clerk 349-4260, tty/TDD 349-4242.

Monday, March 25, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)
Monday, April 1, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Roundtable Meeting Informal meeting with no public comment, at which time no votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)
Monday, April 8, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)
Monday, April 22, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)
Monday, April 29, 2002	5:30 P.M.	Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

FEBRUARY 25, 2002

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of Robert Crocker, 120 Avon Hill Street, as a member of the Cambridge Historical Commission for a term of three years, effective February 8, 2002.
2. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 01-258**, regarding a report on forming a task force on career opportunities in Cambridge.
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 02-09**, regarding the regulations of motorized scooters.
4. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to a Jitney License application for Back Bay Coach.
5. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 02-11**, regarding the potential use of panelized homes in the affordable housing market.
6. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 02-04**, regarding a report on any legal decisions made with respect to 1979 Massachusetts Avenue as it relates to parking concerns by neighbors.
7. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 02-12**, regarding working with DTE to develop a system that identifies low-income consumers who may be eligible to receive electric, gas and telephone utility discount rates.
8. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 02-07**, regarding a report on providing technical support to the Agassiz area during construction by Harvard University.

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9. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of Faith McDonald, 18 Field Street, as Director of Assessment.
10. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the Planning Board recommendation on granting a sub-surface easement on Cambridge Street to Harvard University.
11. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the appropriation of \$45,690 in the Grant Fund DPW Salary & Wages Account (\$31,000) and Other Ordinary Maintenance Account (\$14,690) from the Comm. of Mass through its Municipal Recycling Incentive Program to provide funds to support two full time contract positions, a neighborhood project to increase curbside recycling program participation and to support the school recycling incentive program.
12. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the transfer of \$396,246 from the General Fund Schools Salary & Wages Account (\$111,246) and Other Ordinary Maintenance Account (\$285,000) to the Schools Extraordinary Expenditures Account to provide funds for renovations and equipment for the RSTA program.
13. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the appropriation of \$303,400 in the General Fund Cable TV Other Ordinary Maintenance Account from the Cable Franchise Fee, which represents the second half payment in this fiscal year to CCTV under the terms of their agreement and is 3% of the cable franchise revenue.
14. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the City's FY2001 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-11, regarding the potential use of panelized homes in the affordable housing market, Inspectional Services Commissioner Robert Bersani reports the following:

“Panelized” homes are constructed using wall panels, which consist of insulation, sheathing, and drywall that are assembled off site and are applied to conventional framing. As utilities are not installed within the panels at the off-site location, this kind of construction does not fall within the “manufactured building” classification in the Building Code. Therefore, there is no requirement for the manufacturer of the panels to obtain special certification from the State Department of Public Safety (Board of Building Regulations and Standards). Further, there is no restriction in the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance concerning this construction method.

Accordingly, “panelized homes” would be permitted in a routine manner under the provisions of the State Building Code and Cambridge Zoning Ordinance.

The Community Development Department Housing Division will explore with the city's housing non-profits the feasibility of incorporating panelized homes and related technologies into the city's affordable housing program.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Council Order No. 02-09, regarding the regulations of motorized scooters, please be advised of the following:

There is a traffic regulation, which prohibits both motorized and non-motorized scooters from certain streets and districts (as defined by Article I of the Traffic Regulations). Further, Sec. 22.2 of Article XXII of the Traffic Regulations regulates the use of scooters on all sidewalks. Violations will be enforced when officers observe a violation of the traffic regulation. The Registry of Motor Vehicles does not regulate motorized scooters. They have considered doing so, however, legislation is necessary and there has been no statute enacted to date in Massachusetts. Massachusetts General Laws, Chapters 89 and 90 do not apply to motorized scooters.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachments

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 01-258, regarding a report on forming a task force on career opportunities in Cambridge, Assistant City Manager for Human Services Jill Herold reports the following:

On January 29, 2002, Deputy City Manager Richard Rossi convened a meeting of key City representatives to discuss a suitable vehicle for creating a partnership between Cambridge businesses, universities, schools, residents and workforce and economic development professionals in order to improve employment prospects for Cambridge residents.

Several existing groups were identified as already working to forge similar partnerships including the Partnership for Public Education, the new Rindge School of Technical Arts (RSTA) Advisory Committee and the Office of Workforce Development's Business Advisory Committee.

Although the key findings of the Community Development Report "Education and Skill for the New Economy: A Survey of Employment Trends in Cambridge" are relevant for both adults and young people the assembled group concluded that the timing is right to focus on youth and the Cambridge Public Schools.

Rather than launching a new task force at this time, the group recommended conducting a series of conversations with key stakeholders about using the results of the Community Development report as a catalyst for developing new types of internships and other career exploration opportunities for Cambridge students. The Department of Human Service Programs and the Office of Workforce Development could lead this effort, with close cooperation from the Community Development Department. Since the support of the Cambridge Public Schools will be essential for any initiative involving Cambridge students, it was decided that the next step would be to have a discussion with Superintendent Bobbie D'Alessandro regarding appropriate representation from the School Department in these conversations. The second conversation would take place with the two co-chairs of the Cambridge Partnership for Public Education, Paul Parravano and Kathleen Granchelli. Out of these and possibly other meetings, goals can be defined and strategies developed for creating new relationships between local businesses, City Departments and the Cambridge Public Schools leading to promising career opportunities for residents.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

I am hereby transmitting notification of the appointment of Robert G. Crocker, 120 Avon Hill Street, as a member of the Cambridge Historical Commission, for a term of three years effective February 8, 2002.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached for your consideration a Jitney License application for Back Bay Coach, received from the License Commission.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Faith D. McDonald, 18 Field Street, Cambridge as Director of Assessment for the City of Cambridge.

I have attached Ms. McDonalds' resume for your information.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-07, regarding a report on providing technical support to the Agassiz area during construction by Harvard University, Chief Public Health Officer Harold Cox and Director of Environmental Health Sam Lipson report the following:

At the request of local residents the staff from several City of Cambridge departments have become directly involved in discussions over the development of the 52-60 Oxford Street parcel at the corner of Hammond Street. This cooperation between Harvard University, the Agassiz neighborhood and City of Cambridge staff has focused around discussions that pertain to the proposed development of the Oxford-Hammond parcel. Some discussion pertaining to the long term development plans for the entire North Campus (or North Precinct) area will take place, though participating City staff will be primarily concerned with the immediate development site.

The primary role for City staff will be to support the neighborhood in addressing environmental, public health, zoning, and nuisance concerns already raised and those that may yet be raised. A summary of the issues that have been raised by local residents and City staff was submitted to the Council on January 24. Although this cooperative process will take clearer shape as Harvard produces more detailed development plans and submits state-mandated reports, actions already taken and roles to be played by each municipal department can be clarified.

Actions taken so far

Cambridge Public Health Department staff participated in meetings in mid-January with representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (chemical contamination) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (cyclotron decommissioning and radiation control). These meetings had representation from the Agassiz neighborhood. Some of these Agassiz participants later summarized the issues that came out of these meetings during the Agassiz Neighborhood Council meeting on January 15th of this year.

Agassiz neighbors, City staff, and Harvard representatives held a joint meeting on February 1 to arrange ongoing coordination and information-sharing between these parties. A series of public discussions between Harvard and the neighborhood (not yet scheduled) will be held to examine long-term development plans for the North Campus (or North Precinct) area: Biology labs, Divinity School, Law School. Though the neighborhood and the university will be engaging in negotiation throughout these discussions, the City will participate as appropriate in order to provide technical support and clarification of local and state regulatory processes.

Cambridge Public Health staff have offered guidance on designating the parcel as a DEP Public Involvement Process (PIP) site with minimal effort. This designation will allow public review of all related regulatory documents, a 20-day comment period for each phase of clean-up, and public meetings (if requested) with Harvard to discuss each report once it is issued. Residents will write this plan with the

Public Involvement Coordinator at the Department of Environmental Protection and may receive assistance from the Cambridge Public Health Department if requested.

On February 7, 2002 The Cambridge Historical Commission held a hearing to review the Harvard Cyclotron Laboratory building for Preferably Preserved status. A final decision not to assign this protection was made, opening the way for the issuance of a demolition permit by the Inspectional Services Department.

Some concern has been raised by residents about the impact of excavation for such a deep underground garage structure so close to a still-active Cyclotron. The City of Cambridge and local neighbors made a request to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Radiation Control Program (RCP) to active review this proposed excavation with regard to the safe operation of the Cyclotron. The Harvard Environmental Health and Safety Office will submit a written response to the RCP.

The issuance of a building permit by Inspectional Services for the 5-storey underground garage immediately adjacent to the Cyclotron is being held pending resolution of this matter.

Anticipated ongoing role for City staff

City staff from Public Health, Inspectional Services, Public Works and Community Development departments expect to offer some assurance that public health risks are properly characterized and contained, appropriate zoning is observed, and nuisance dust and noise limits are enforced. While many arrangements between the university and the neighborhood are being discussed to assure that disturbance is minimized, City enforcement of public health and building codes will offer minimum standards that the university must meet. While residents bring considerable influence to the discussion, the participation of City staff can clearly establish that existing codes and regulations will be strictly enforced.

Public Health

The Public Health Department offers experience working with neighbors on other development projects across Cambridge that have posed potential threats to local public health or quality of life. By helping to review state regulatory documents for protection of public health and the environment and maintaining strict adherence to public health standards this department can limit the concern that regulatory processes with little direct oversight will be carried out with appropriate scrutiny. This Public Health advocacy and review function can be useful to the neighborhood because of the familiarity of this department with the regulatory processes and the state regulators themselves. Furthermore, state regulators are accustomed to working directly with local health officials.

Inspectional Services

Issuance of demolition and construction permits is within the purview of the Inspectional Services Department. This department is also responsible for responding to construction-related nuisances (excessive odor, noise, vibration). A representative from Inspectional Services was present at the February 1 planning meeting to answer questions from participants and will be available to participate in smaller meetings that relate to permits and local enforcement of the Building and Public Health codes.

Public Works

Public Works has oversight responsibilities for maintenance of sewer and storm water delivery systems and has been requested to be available to this process. The neighborhood has experience major disruptions over the past several years from major sewer-storm upgrade activities and other unanticipated disruptions. Public Health was present at the February 1 meeting and has indicated that an appropriate staff person will be available to address questions and concerns at future discussions as needed.

Community Development

Community Development will play a role in addressing PTDM (Parking and Transportation Demand Management) and zoning questions. Future participation of CDD staff will be arranged as needed and all questions from the neighborhood will be delivered to appropriate staff as they arise.

Public Health risk summary

Despite presence of some radioactive material in the encasement of the cyclotron, the decommissioning and removal should not pose a significant risk to residents or employees. The Massachusetts standard for allowable radioactive exposure (10 milliREM per year) is the lowest in the United States and will be required within the final decommissioning plan. Harvard has already stated its intention to adhere to a voluntary 1 milliREM per year standard, a level that is well below the average radiation exposure encountered by individuals under normal circumstances.

The potential health effects of the PCBs, mercury and other chemicals found during preliminary testing cannot be assessed until more soil testing is completed. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), upon receipt of Harvard's Notice of Responsibility in December 2001, now regulates this 60 Oxford St site under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP). This clean-up program requires an assessment of public health risk as a result of contamination. Preliminary data suggests that the concentrations of contaminants in the soil do not pose a significant threat, but subsequent reports will establish the degree of risk with greater certainty.

In addition, Inspectional Services Commissioner Robert Bersani reports the following:

The proposed construction of a parking garage by Harvard and the related demolition of the Harvard Cyclotron Laboratory have raised questions and concerns from area residents. Mr. Bersani and his staff are available to respond to any questions or problems from the Agassiz Neighborhood concerning building construction in the area.

In meetings and discussions with Harvard representatives concerning this project, Mr. Bersani has stressed the importance of complying with City Ordinances as they relate to construction and the State Building Code. In particular, I have stressed the importance of complying with the Noise Ordinance as it pertains to allowable hours of work and the requirements of the State Building Code concerning protection of adjacent structures. I have suggested that Harvard conduct pre-construction surveys of adjacent buildings and monitor vibrations during demolition and construction operations to insure that vibrations do not exceed threshold values. I have also suggested that Harvard provide information on a regular basis to the neighborhood concerning planned construction milestones and operations. Harvard has been receptive to these suggestions.

Finally, the neighborhood has raised concerns about the possibility of health related impacts from this project. In this regard, Mr. Bersani will insure that the Inspectional Services Department will coordinate closely with the City Chief Public Health Officer and appropriate State agencies prior to issuing any permits and also during construction as may be necessary.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Council Order No. 02-04, regarding a report on any legal decisions made with respect to 1979 Massachusetts Avenue in light of parking concerns by neighbors with respect to the new use of the property, Inspectional Services Commissioner Robert Bersani reports the following:

1979 Massachusetts Avenue was the location of the Long Funeral Home since the 1930s. The property has recently been sold and the new owner has stated that he intends to convert the building to an office use. The proposed office use is permitted as-of-right in the district. The issue of the amount of parking that would be required under the provisions of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance was raised by concerned neighbors.

In determining the amount of parking required for a change in use, Sections 6.12(c) and 6.15 of Article 6.000 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance are applicable. Section 6.12(c) states that for structures constructed prior to the effective date of the parking provisions of the Zoning Ordinance (March 15, 1961) "...additional off street parking and loading facilities shall be required only to the extent that the required amount for the new use would exceed the amount required for the previous use if said previous use were subject to the schedule of parking and loading requirements...". Since the required amount of parking for the proposed office use, estimated to be 10 spaces, is less than the 15 spaces that would have been required for the funeral home use were it to be subject to the schedule of the parking requirements, there is no a requirement for any additional parking spaces.

Section 6.15 addresses existing parking spaces and requires that, even for properties built prior to the March 15, 1961 and hence not subject to the parking requirements, parking spaces established subsequent to the March 15, 1961 date cannot be reduced below the minimum required for the use by the parking provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. Although the St. John's Episcopal Church, located across Beech Street from the former Long Funeral Home provided occasional parking under a non-bidding arrangement to the Funeral Home, it was determined that these could not be considered established parking spaces. Therefore, there is not a requirement to maintain any existing parking spaces. The end result was that this Department concurred in the zoning analysis by the proponent that concluded that no parking spaces would be required for the proposed office use.

It should be noted, that the owner has not yet submitted an application for a building permit or for a certificate of occupancy (CO) for the proposed office use. Prior to granting a building permit or a CO for the office use, ISD will require submission of detailed drawings and architects certifications in order to confirm that the 10 parking spaces estimated for the proposed office use is accurate.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-12, regarding working with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy to develop a system that identifies low income consumers who may be eligible to receive electric, gas and telephone utility discount rates, received from Executive Director of the Consumers' Council Paul Schlaver.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

TO: Robert W. Healy, City Manager
FROM: Paul J. Schlaver, Executive Director
THROUGH: Benjamin Barnes, License Commission Chair
DATE: February 20, 2002

RE: Council Order #4, dated 2/11/02 RE: report on working with the DTE to develop a system that identifies low income consumers who may be eligible to receive electric, gas and telephone utility discount rates.

The DTE already mandates that the utility companies that fall under their regulatory authority conduct outreach campaigns to inform their customers of the possible discounts available to them. The "bill stuffers" and other forms of outreach are reviewed by the DTE. Attached please find a "bill stuffer" I just received this week from NSTAR. The application procedure has been made very simply for customers. Documentation is not required directly from the customer but sought by the utility company and provided by the particular agency determining eligibility for various low-income benefits once the customer has given NSTAR (in this case) permission to seek the verification.

For many years various governmental programs for low-income residents have included permission to share such information with utility companies directly when the resident applied for the program, such as fuel assistance, food stamps, etc. Therefore, the eligibility is assertively passed on to the utility company and the discount rate immediately begins especially when gas or electric heat is involved. There is no burden on the resident at all to return a card such as this one.

The Fuel Assistance Program run by the Human Services Department does its very best to make sure all program recipients obtain the maximum discounts available. That staff is even on the lookout for good candidates for telephone discounts such as Lifeline rates, with seniors applying for fuel assistance. I am confident that our Council on Aging and the other agencies serving the elderly in particular makes discount eligibility an outreach priority.

Therefore, the identification process is certainly already in place by virtue of eligibility for any program as listed on the attachment and the utility companies have been consistently monitored by the DTE to make easy enrollment by their customers possible. The city can continue to encourage any of its departments or their colleagues at non-profit agencies serving this low-income population to maintain their outreach campaigns to make sure all eligible Cambridge residents are properly enroll in the available discount programs.

attachment

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

I herewith transmit the Planning Board report and recommendation regarding the grant of a sub-surface easement on Cambridge Street to Harvard University.

Additionally, I reiterate my recommendation contained in the report to the City Council transmitted on October 15, 2001.

Under City Ordinance 2.110.010, the "City Council shall hold a public hearing within six weeks of receipt of the...Planning Board report."

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

February 20, 2002

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Subject: Disposition of Land in Cambridge Street to Harvard University for a Pedestrian and Service Tunnel Between Buildings at 1730 and 1737 Cambridge Street.

Recommendation. The Planning Board recommends granting of the requested easement beneath Cambridge Street, as detailed in the report of the City Manager transmitted to the Planning Board on December 13, 2001.

Findings.

The Planning Board finds that the transfer of an easement to Harvard University will fulfill the purpose of City Ordinance 2.110.010 – Disposition of City Property “to protect the citizens of Cambridge and to achieve land uses that best serve the City’s public purpose” to the extent that the project, in its entirety, is implemented as presented in the City Manager’s Report, including area-wide physical improvements and mitigation measures during the time of construction.

Toward a Sustainable Future: Cambridge Growth Policy Document, February 1993 provides some guidance as to how university growth and change should be shaped by city land use and other policies. The policy plan acknowledges the “generally positive influence of the institutions’ presence in Cambridge...” but cautions that those positive impacts “... must be weighed against the potentially negative impacts...of continued institutional expansion that does not adequately consider the effects of such expansion on the larger community.” Several of the seventy enumerated policies in the document suggest how that balancing might be managed.

It is recognized that the universities, like all businesses and institutions, must “...adapt and respond to changing circumstances to maintain their leadership positions in education...and research...” but in a manner that recognizes, responds to and coordinates with the city’s policy goals (Policy 50). To accommodate that change, universities are encouraged to expand “...in those areas that historically have been occupied by such uses and to abutting areas that are reasonably suited to institutional expansion, as indicated by any institutional overlay district formally adopted by the City” (Policy 5). For the City, the document urges that “reasonable densities...be permitted in their core campuses to forestall unnecessary expansion into both commercial districts and low-density residential neighborhoods” (Policy 6).

The new Harvard University buildings that are to be served by the proposed underground tunnel will both be located within the Residence C-3 zoning district. That district functions in part in the zoning ordinance as the “university campus” zone, regulating development at the core campuses of both Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The new building sites have been zoned Residence C-3 since 1961. Furthermore, the institutional nature of this area was reiterated in city land use policy with its incorporation into the Harvard, Radcliffe, Lesley Institutional Overlay District in 1981. For at least fifty years, through the adopted zoning ordinance, the City has identified the proposed building sites and the surrounding area as a place, in part, for higher density institutional development. Furthermore, the two existing buildings that the new development will replace have been used for university and academic purposes for more than two decades.

The growth policy document suggests that “the diversity of the city’s development pattern is a major asset and should be fostered and protected.” This very diversity “fosters the social and economic diversity that is one of Cambridge’s enduring assets.” The document does acknowledge that “the close proximity of a wide variety of uses and activities requires careful consideration of buffer and transition requirements.” Cambridge Street in the vicinity of the proposed construction includes a mix of institutional activity and moderate density housing, which, it is hoped, will remain a permanent element of the character of this part of the city. Such a mixing of uses and activities continues to be citywide planning policy as illustrated by the adoption by the City Council of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance (recommended by the Planning Board) to allow housing in the few industrial zoning districts that had prohibited residential uses. A major aspect of the comprehensive rezoning adopted citywide and for eastern Cambridge was the emphasis on an increased presence for housing in commercial neighborhoods.

Therefore, the very fact of the intermingling of institutional and residential activities in the area of the proposed development should be viewed in a positive light, but suggests that there must be careful attention paid to how any potential conflicts between those two uses can be minimized or prevented.

While the precise uses in the new buildings differ somewhat from those now in the existing ones on the sites to be connected by the tunnel in the easement area, the area of land occupied by institutional uses will not be expanding. Existing homes will remain and the academic activities already in the area will continue, at a somewhat increased intensity. It is the Board’s finding that the potential of conflict between residential and institutional uses, once the significant short-term disruption of the actual construction has passed, will be substantially reduced from that which exists now and that the new building and site configuration, post construction, will provide a much improved environment for nearby residential living. Improvements to the public sidewalks, new paving and street tree plantings, consolidation of loading away from existing residential neighbors, increased building setbacks at critical locations adjacent to apartment buildings, improved pedestrian circulation through the Harvard campus, added landscaping, and enhancement of the physical environment of existing historic resources are all significant changes that will benefit residential neighbors directly and all residents of Cambridge more indirectly.

Other land use policy objectives are served by the specific development plans that the proposed easement would facilitate. A major policy theme addressed in both the Citywide Rezoning Petition and the ECaPS Rezoning Petition was a desire to reduce the physical density of development in the city. Reductions in FAR and height in many districts, the rezoning of whole areas to less intense zoning district designations, and the requirement that above-ground parking structures be calculated as Gross Floor Area were elements in those Petitions addressing that objective.

The density permitted in the Residence C-3 district was not modified in those recent zoning petitions, for the policy reasons set forth above (Policy #6). However, in the spirit of those recent zoning changes, significant portions of the academic program of this proposal will be located in portions of the structures that will be entirely below grade, including those functions within the tunnel itself. In consequence the bulk of building visible to passersby will be reduced from that which would otherwise be the case, and which otherwise might be permitted in the zoning district.

Finally, it should be noted that the Planning Board, Board of Zoning Appeal and the Mid-Cambridge Conservation District have reviewed the project in the context of necessary formal zoning or other approvals. In each case, the relief sought has been granted after a series of public meetings and hearings that have extended over a period of five years.

In sum the Board finds that the “City’s public purpose” as defined in its land use goals and objectives, and embodied in the regulations that shape land use in the city, will be facilitated by the tunnel that will be made possible by the granting to Harvard University of the easement under Cambridge Street.

Long-term, the benefits that would accrue to the Cambridge community generally and the nearby neighbors to this proposed project specifically are real and substantial:

- *Loading facilities serving the buildings will be consolidated in one location, underground and away from residential abutters. The noise and other negative external impacts of that function will be significantly mitigated. The consolidation is made more workable by the use of the tunnel.

- *A significant portion of the buildings’ functions that would normally be constructed above ground will be located underground, reducing the bulk of building visible to the general public on the sites, consistent with city policy as reflected in the recently adopted Citywide Rezoning Petition. The tunnel facilitates this choice by allowing the two buildings to function as a whole.

- *The tunnel makes it possible for the two buildings to be programmed as one with people and goods transported between the principal structures through the tunnel, providing safety and convenience to the users of the building and reducing the potential disruption such academic traffic might entail if it occurred above ground across the street.

*The public sidewalks will be improved over a large area well beyond the immediate vicinity of the two buildings, including the installation of a large number of street trees.

*Campus open spaces will be enhanced through landscaping that will replace existing paved loading and parking areas as well as improvement to the quality green spaces that exist now and will be preserved. While clearly part of the private university campus, such open spaces are widely enjoyed and appreciated by a wide cross section of Cambridge residents.

*A number of historic structures on the campus will be preserved and their setting enhanced as a result of the wider package of improvements to be made as part of the project.

While it cannot be said that all of these benefits are only possible with the construction of the tunnel, the tunnel would seem to make them more likely by allowing a careful coordination of the functioning of two otherwise separate buildings.

However, in the short-term it cannot be denied that there will be substantial inconvenience and disruption resulting from the actual construction of the buildings and the tunnel, which will be imposed principally on immediate abutters, but also on other residents of Cambridge to a lesser extent. An extensive list of concerns has been presented by the public in testimony before the Planning Board and before other Boards during the many years this project has been under discussion. The extent of disruption both physically and over time that will be a result of any tunnel construction is of grave concern to those residents. The Planning Board concurs that these concerns must be adequately addressed.

It is the City's obligation to those abutting neighbors that, should the easement be granted, any inconvenience or disruption be kept to an absolute minimum. In the actual design of the proposed underground facility, the design of construction techniques employed, the management systems employed to implement construction, and the monitoring that will accompany the construction, every detail must serve to shorten the length of time construction will be underway, to limit the extent of the area to be disrupted, and to minimize the noise, dust and other external impacts that will be felt by residents on abutting properties. The details of the mitigation package proposed in the report of the City Manager to the Planning Board clearly indicates that Harvard University and the City are fully committed to responding to those mitigation concerns. Testimony before the Board also suggests that the University is still exploring every option available to reduce any disruption to residents and motorists, to protect the public safety, and to ensure the uninterrupted delivery of city services. Those explorations appear to be continuing.

On technical matters of design, sequencing of construction and mitigation techniques, the Planning Board must defer to the knowledge and advice of other experts; those technical details provide the most important opportunity to contain the disruption of construction to acceptable levels. A commitment to implement the entire package of area improvements outlined in the City Manager's report is a prerequisite to any grant of an easement.

A comprehensive mitigation plan is of course a fundamental requirement. A key element of such a plan is an adequate set of procedures that provides for the active participation of those residents immediately affected, in monitoring activities and identifying negative impacts. A standing committee of neighbors might be established as a knowledgeable forum to review progress, identify conflicts and air concerns. An ombudsman of sorts should be designated to receive comments and complaints and ensure that there is speedy resolution of any problems. Any designated contact person must have the authority to take corrective action; and there should be a telephone number to call at all times of the day or night to register complaints. The contact persons and their numbers should also be given to Inspectional Services and the Police Department. Finally, any grant of an easement must reserve to the City the right to use the street and its subsurface for any public need that may arise in the future.

Respectfully submitted for the Planning Board,

Larissa Brown, Chair

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

I am hereby requesting the transfer of \$396,246 from the General Fund Schools Salary & Wages Account (\$111,246) and Other Ordinary Maintenance Account (\$285,000) to the Schools Extraordinary Expenditures Account to provide funds for renovations and equipment for the Rindge School of Technical Arts (RSTA) program. These funds will finance the next phase of space renovations, equipment purchases, and curriculum development for the RSTA vocational-technical programs of an additional programs beyond the current five programs for State Chapter 74 approval. Chapter 74 approval was confirmed for the current five program on February 15, 2002. This order was approved by the School Committee on November 13, 2001.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

February 25, 2002

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I am hereby requesting an appropriation of \$45,690 in the Grant Fund of the Public Works Department Salary and Wages Account (\$31,000) and Other Ordinary Maintenance Account (\$14,690). The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has awarded funds through its Municipal Recycling Incentive Program (MRIP), which provides funds to municipalities to support environmental programs. Funds will be used to continue to support two full time contract positions, the Recycling Program Manager and the Recycling Specialist as well as a neighborhood project to increase participation in our curbside recycling program and to support our school recycling incentive program

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

February 25, 2001

To The Honorable, The City Council:

I am hereby requesting the appropriation of \$303,400 in the General Fund Cable TV Other Ordinary Maintenance Account from the Cable Franchise Fee.

This amount represents the second half payment in this fiscal year to CCTV under the terms of their agreement and is 3% of the cable franchise revenue.

Passage of this appropriation is recommended.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

I am hereby transmitting for your information the City's FY2001 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

MASSACHUSETTS

**City Council Calendar No. 4
Monday, February 25, 2002**

At 5:30 P.M.

ON THE TABLE

1. Landmark Designation Study Report for Shady Hill Square, 1-11 Shady Hill Square and 36 Holden Street.

2. Landmark Designation Study Report for designating as a protected landmark the Tulip Tree at 1436 and 1446 Cambridge Street.

3. Communications and Reports from City Officers #1 of February 11, 2002 regarding the application from Lyme Properties LLC requesting approval for the following new street names:
 - Broad Canal Way
 - Athenaeum Street (extension of existing Athenaeum Street)
 - Kendall Street
 - West Kendall Street
 - East Kendall Street.

Approval has been received from Public Works and Emergency Communications Departments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. Proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to create a transition district along Hammond and Gorham Streets, where one side of the street consists of small residential dwellings and the other side consists of parking lots owned by Harvard with zoning that allows 100 feet heights as of right. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after January 28, 2002.
This petition expires March 13, 2002.

**APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS -
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. A constable bond was received from Philip Sciandra for approval of the surety. | 1. |
| 2. An application was received from Low Price Jewels & Merchandise, requesting permission for two tables to display merchandise at the premises numbered 577 Massachusetts Avenue. | 2. |
| 3. An application was received from Allan Savenor, requesting a curb cut at the premises numbered 39 Myrtle Avenue; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical and Public Works Departments. No response has been received from the neighborhood associations. | 3. |
| 4. An application was received from VoiceStream Wireless, requesting permission for a sandwich board sign and a table to display merchandise at the premises numbered 1438 Massachusetts Avenue. | 4. |

**CONSENT COMMUNICATIONS -
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. A communication was received from the Motion Picture Machine Operators Local 182, transmitting sincere thanks to the City Council for their support. | 1. |
| 2. A communication was received from the Martorella family, transmitting thanks for the resolution on behalf of Concetta "Tina" Martorella. | 2. |
| 3. A communication was received from Representative Paul C. Demakis, regarding full funding of the Clean Elections Law. | 3. |
| 4. A communication was received from Representative Paul C. Demakis, regarding increased State Police speed limit enforcement along Memorial Drive. | 4. |
| 5. A communication was received from Denise K. Maguire, Cambridge Family & Children's Service transmitting appreciation for the resolution acknowledging their efforts with the Kennedy School of Government regarding adolescents aging out of the state foster care system. | 5. |
| 6. A communication was received from Representative Jarrett T. Barrios, transmitting support for the transition district along Hammond and Gorham Streets. | 6. |

**RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

1. Resolution on the death of Santo “Sam” Cassia. 1.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
2. Resolution on the death of Catherine McGreal. 2.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
3. Resolution on the death of Lester C. Sanford. 3.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
4. Resolution on the death of Leopold G. Balzano. 4.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
5. Happy Anniversary wishes to a special couple. 5.
Councillor Toomey and entire membership
6. Congratulations to Philip F. Mangano on his appointment as the 6.
Executive Director of the Federal Interagency Homeless Council.
Councillor Toomey and entire membership
7. Resolution on the death of Carmen Irene Pittman. 7.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
8. Resolution on the death of Vincent Pacelli. 8.
Councillor Toomey, Galluccio and entire membership
9. Resolution on the death of Dorothy Condon. 9.
Mayor Sullivan, Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
10. Resolution on the death of Martha Henderson “Muffy” Coolidge. 10.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
11. Resolution on the death of Robert A. Fay. 11.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
12. Resolution on the death of Captain Horace E. Lindberg, Jr. 12.
Mayor Sullivan, Councillor Galluccio and entire membership

**RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 13. Resolution on the death of Manuel Joaquim.
Councillor Galluccio, Mayor Sullivan, Councillor Toomey and
entire membership | 13. |
| 14. Congratulating the Writers of Color Workshop on their compilation
of works.
Vice Mayor Davis, Councillor Toomey and entire membership | 14. |
| 15. Resolution on the death of Lillian Robbins.
Mayor Sullivan, Vice Mayor Davis and entire membership | 15. |
| 16. Congratulating the members of the CRLS culinary team in their
resounding victory in the Natural Pie Challenge.
Vice Mayor Davis, Mayor Sullivan and entire membership | 16. |
| 17. Resolution on the death of Thomas A. Patterson.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership | 17. |
| 18. Resolution on the death of Giuseppe “Joe” Borelli.
Councillor Galluccio, Mayor Sullivan, Councillor Toomey and
entire membership | 18. |
| 19. Resolution on the death of Anna (Arenell) Curry.
Councillor Toomey and entire membership | 19. |
| 20. Congratulations to Bernard Flynn on being promoted to the rank of
Full Bird Colonel in the United States Army Reserve.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership | 20. |
| 21. Happy 70 th Birthday wishes to State Senator Ted Kennedy.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership | 21. |
| 22. Retirement of Andrea Downie from the School Department.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership | 22. |
| 23. Retirement of Barbara Richard from the School Department.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership | 23. |

**RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

24. Encouraging Cambridge residents to attend the Honorable Severlin Singleton’s Cambridge premier of “Street Corner Symphony” on Saturday February 23rd, 3:00 p.m. at Kresge Auditorium. 24.
Councillor Reeves and entire membership
25. Congratulations to Rob and Lori Sands-Roddenberry on the birth of their daughter Kirstin Roddenberry. 25.
Councillor Maher and entire membership
26. Congratulating the Harvard Book Store on its seventieth anniversary. 26.
Councillor Murphy and entire membership
27. Best wishes and appreciation to the City of Cambridge Employees’ Committee on Diversity on the occasion of their presentation of “Malcolm X ‘By Any Means Necessary’ “on February 27, 2002 at the Senior Center. 27.
Councillor Reeves and entire membership
28. Extending the Agassiz Neighborhood Council great success with its 7th Annual Hip-Hop Festival. 28.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
29. Congratulating all the members of CityStep for their dedication and hardwork with the school age children in the community. 29.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
30. Extending best wishes for great success in the completion of the documentary work in progress at the Cambridge YWCA. 30.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
31. Acknowledging the celebration of International Women’s Day. 31.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
32. Extending congratulations to the new Officers and Directors at the Justinian Law Society. 32.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership

**RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

33. Recognizing International Mother Language Day, which is celebrated annually on the 21st of February. 33.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
34. Extending Best Wishes for the NoCA Arts 5th Annual All Open Arts Studio. 34.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
35. Acknowledging the lasting tribute to Officer Loughrey who gave his life in the line of duty. 35.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
36. Extending congratulations to the workers and the Cross Point Associates team on their completion of the project on One Bow Street. 36.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
37. Resolution on the death of John Fowler. 37.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
38. Resolution on the death of Thomas C. Wilder. 38.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
39. Resolution on the death of Cleo E. Carroll. 39.
Mayor Sullivan, Councillor Galluccio, Councillor Toomey and entire membership
40. Resolution on the death of Leo J. Boyle. 40.
Councillor Maher, Mayor Sullivan, Councillors Galluccio, Toomey and entire membership
41. Congratulating the US House and Senate for passing legislation to address “soft money” and special thanks to Congressman Martin Meehan for his continued effort to address this issue. 41.
Councillor Galluccio and entire membership
42. Resolution on the death of Aldina F. Soares. 42.
Councillor Toomey and entire membership

**RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

43. Resolution on the death of Josephine Galligani. 43.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
44. Resolution on the death of Donald J. Marchant. 44.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
45. Congratulating the Cambridge Public Schools, Department of Public Works, and the Cambridge Recycling Program for their successful efforts through the SCRIP program to recycle. 45.
Vice Mayor Davis, Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
46. Extending best wishes to Ruah, Breath of Life, Inc. for great success with its 8th Annual Rays of Hope Awards Ceremony. 46.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
47. Best wishes for a spectacular performance of “REASON.” 47.
Mayor Sullivan and entire membership
48. Support of House Bill 4318 An Act Relative To Speed Limits In Cities And Towns. 48.
Vice Mayor Davis and entire membership
49. Commending Frank Krames, owner of the Harvard Book Store, and Susan Flannery, Director of the Library, for their efforts promoting reading in Cambridge. 49.
Vice Mayor Davis and entire membership
50. Congratulating the Charles River Transportation Management Association, Community Development Department, Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department, and participating Cambridge businesses on the successful launch of the EZRide Shuttle. 50.
Vice Mayor Davis and entire membership
51. Commending all participants in the Environmental Protection Agency’s Charles River Stormwater Design Competition and congratulating the winners. 51.
Vice Mayor Davis and entire membership

**RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

52. Wishing the CRLS STARS good luck in their evening of theater and conversation. 52.

Councillor Toomey and entire membership

53. Extending best wishes to the Portuguese American Civic League for a successful event. 53.

Councillor Toomey and entire membership

**POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

1. A letter from David Borrus regarding proposed amendments to the Responsible Employee Ordinance be referred to the Ordinance Committee. 1.
Councillor Galluccio
2. The corner of River Street and Howard Streets be named after Louis L. Stoddard, Pearl Harbor survivor and World War II Veteran. 2.
Councillor Maher
3. Reaffirming the City Council's support for the Police Review and Advisory Board. 3.
Councillor Reeves
4. The City Manager is requested to confer with the Director of the Animal Control Commission with the view of increasing enforcement efforts of the animal control laws in the Riverside and Cambridgeport neighborhoods. 4.
Councillor Reeves
5. The Cambridge City Council urges the State Legislature to enact the Workplace Disclosure Bill legislation in order to provide the public with necessary assurances that the Commonwealth is not purchasing goods and services from sweatshop manufacturers. 5.
Councillors Decker, Murphy and Toomey
6. The City Manager direct the Police Commissioner to assign extra police officers in the vicinity of the Harrington School. 6.
Councillor Toomey
7. The City Manager instruct the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to contact the developer at 364 Third Street relative to temporary repairs to Third Street between Binney Street and Broadway. 7.
Councillor Toomey
8. Urging the Massachusetts Legislature and the Governor to prevent cuts in state funding of Mass Health that would decrease the level of service currently provided to our most vulnerable citizens. 8.
Councillor Galluccio

**POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

9. The City Manager prepare a recommendation for the City Council, 9.
on the creation of full time staff positions, including technical
assistance, research and analysis, for each City Councillor and a
recommendation as to how the existing City Council Office could
work cooperatively and in conjunction with individual Council aides.
Councillor Toomey

O-1.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO

ORDERED: That the attached letter from David Borrus regarding proposed amendments to the Responsible Employee Ordinance be referred to the Ordinance Committee.

O-2.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR MAHER

ORDERED: That the corner of River Street and Howard Streets be named after Louis L. Stoddard, Pearl Harbor survivor and World War II Veteran; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Assistant to the City Council arrange for a suitable dedication ceremony after consultation with the family and arrange for a sign with the Public Works Department.

O-3.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR REEVES

WHEREAS: Recent reports appear to underrate that more support for the Cambridge Police Review and Advisory Board is warranted; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record reaffirming its support for the Police Review and Advisory Board; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to reaffirm the City's support for the Police Review and Advisory Board.

O-4.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR REEVES

WHEREAS: Residents of the Riverside and Cambridgeport neighborhoods have complained that dog walkers are failing to use required measures to remove waste; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of the Animal Control Commission with the view of increasing enforcement efforts of the animal control laws in the Riverside and Cambridgeport neighborhoods.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR MURPHY
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

- WHEREAS: The Workplace Disclosure Bill (S. 1621), requiring manufacturers to identify where goods are being produced, has been introduced in the Massachusetts State Legislature; and
- WHEREAS: Throughout the world, including in our own city, dangerous and illegal working conditions persist; and
- WHEREAS: There is presently no requirement for the disclosure of information on where and in what conditions goods and services are produced for the Commonwealth; and
- WHEREAS: The citizens of the Commonwealth deserve to know with certainty where goods and services acquired by the state are produced and what conditions these goods and services are produced under; and
- WHEREAS: The Workplace Disclosure Bill (S. 1621) will provide the vital information needed by public officials and voluntary organizations to discourage the acquisition by the Commonwealth of sweatshop-produced goods and services; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council urges the State Legislature to enact the Workplace Disclosure Bill legislation in order to provide the public with necessary assurances that the Commonwealth is not purchasing goods and services from sweatshop manufacturers; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Cambridge Legislative Delegation of the Massachusetts General Court.

O-6.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Police Commissioner to assign extra police officers in the vicinity of the Harrington School during the hours of 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. due to unsuitable conditions across the street that is unacceptable to school age children and to ensure the safety of the children at the time of dismissal from school and the Extended Day Program.

O-7.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to contact the developer at 364 Third Street relative to temporary repairs to Third Street between Binney Street and Broadway.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO

- WHEREAS: The number of people enrolled in Mass Health (also known as Medicaid) has increased by 300,000 over the last five years; and
- WHEREAS: The federal government pays 50% of the cost of Medicaid, which allows Massachusetts to provide important additional service options such as eye glasses, substance abuse treatment and prescription drugs; and
- WHEREAS: Elected officials across Massachusetts have declared health care as a top priority for Massachusetts citizens; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record urging the Massachusetts Legislature and the Governor to prevent cuts in state funding of Mass Health that would decrease the level of service currently provided to our most vulnerable citizens.

O-9.

February 25, 2002

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: During the 2000-2001 City Council term there were several public hearings relative to the issue of staffing for the City Council; and

WHEREAS: There was much public input and debate surrounding this issue; and

WHEREAS: The City budget for the 2002-2003 is presently being reviewed and prepared by the City Manager; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager prepare a recommendation for the City Council, on the creation of full time staff positions, including technical assistance, research and analysis, for each City Councillor and a recommendation as to how the existing City Council Office could work cooperatively and in conjunction with individual Council aides; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back by March 18, 2002.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Brian Murphy, Co-Chair of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on February 20, 2002 for the purpose of continued discussion of the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to create a transition district along Hammond and Gorham Streets.

Committee Report #1

In City Council February 25, 2002

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Councillor Brian Murphy, Co-Chair
Councillor David P. Maher, Co-Chair
Vice Mayor Henrietta Davis
Councillor Marjorie C. Decker
Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio
Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves
Councillor E. Denise Simmons
Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.
Mayor Michael A. Sullivan*

The Ordinance Committee held a public meeting on February 20, 2002, beginning at 4:37 P.M. in the Sullivan Chamber for the purpose of continued discussion of the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to create a transitional district along Hammond and Goreham Streets.

Present at the hearing were Councillors Brian Murphy, Co-Chair of the Committee, Councillor Henrietta Davis and City Clerk D. Margaret Drury. Also present were Susan Glazer, Deputy Director of the Community Development Department (CDD), Lester Barber, Director of Land Use and Zoning, CDD, Roger Boothe, Director of Urban Design, CDD, First Assistant City Solicitor Nancy Glowka,

Councillor Murphy convened the hearing and explained the purpose. He invited Mr. Barber to review the proposal. Mr. Barber stated that this petition seeks to create a transition zone between the high density residential zone, with 100 ft. height limits, of the Harvard campus and the low density residential zone abutting the campus along Hammond and Goreham Streets. The proposal establishes an overlay zone which extends to 100feet from the centerline of the street with height limits of 35 feet (somewhat higher for sloped-roof buildings) limits on building widths, increased setbacks and other required urban design features, such maintenance of pedestrian accessibility from the residential area through the campus.

Mr. Barber provided a copy of the Planning Board's recommendation (Attachment A), which includes the two following recommended amendments to the proposal:

- (1) In Section 20.11.51- Maximum Height, a phrase is introduced to make it clear that the required minimum slope of the roof is measured from the vertical plane; and
- (2) (2) In Section 20.11.61 – Overlay Design Front Yard, modifications in the definition are made so that the required fifty-foot setback is measured from the property line rather than from the center of the street.

Mr. Barber also described the process through which the plan was created. There was a two-year collaboration of Harvard, CDD and Agassiz neighborhood residents, assisted by Dennis Carlone, urban designer and architect, which culminated in this proposal. He concluded his presentation by noting that the proposal also relocates the text of existing overlay districts in Article 11.000 Special Regulations to Article 20.000 –Overlay Districts for a more logical and user-friendly organization of the regulatory scheme.

Councillor Murphy then invited public comments.

Fred Meyer, 83 Hammond Street, stated that he is a long-time resident of Hammond Street and that he participated fully in the process through which this proposal was developed. He walks through the area every day, and he was particularly concerned about the pedestrian access. He stated that he was pleased with the process and he is pleased with the result.

Councillor Murphy announced that the record would be held open for a letter, which Councillor Galluccio informed the chair he would be submitting (Attachment B).

There followed a discussion of what elements of this process made it so successful. Among the factors noted were the long-term nature of the process, which enabled participants to develop trust in each other, agreement among all parties as to the problem to be solved, the fact that both the residents and Harvard saw the plan as an improvement to the existing conditions of an unattractive edge, respect for private property and participation by strong, empowered neighborhood residents. All present agreed that a longer discussion of this issue would be helpful.

Councillor Murphy thanked those present for their attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 P.M. on motion of Councillor Davis.

For the Committee,

Councillor Brian Murphy, Co-Chair

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**COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS -
FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002**

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a copy of the audit report for the Cambridge Housing Authority from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (Copy on file for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office)