City of Cambridge Open Space System

Eastern Cambridge/Kendall Square
Open Space Committee 2013
Open Space – How is it planned?

• Open Space Committee
• Park planning public meetings
• Neighborhood Studies
• Area Studies (e.g. ECaPS)
• Green Ribbon Report

_all feed into the_

• Open Space Plan
For All Ages
or up on the roof

Under a Park

Barcelona
Forest and pond
Spinning & Sliding
Functional Design/Details

Barcelona bench

Portland, OR – Bike Rack
Pathways through
For groups to gather – chat or play
Green edges, green expanses
New pathways, new vistas
Open Space Plan
• Green Ribbon Report

Park Categorization

• National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) standards
  – Park Types
  – Park Uses
• Committee used NRPA standards as a starting point, adjusted for Cambridge
Active Recreation Programming

Youth Leagues
- Youth Soccer
- Babe Ruth Baseball
- Girls Youth Softball
- Pop Warner Football
- Adult softball

Adult Leagues
- Little League Baseball
- Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School
- Elementary School Intramural Program
- Youth Centers Flag Football
- Adult soccer/frisbee
Demographics

Population Density of Children
Age 14 to 18 Years Old

Number of Children Age 14-18 per Acre by Census Block Group

- 0
- 0.1 - 0.5
- 0.6 - 1.1
- 1.2 - 2.1
- 2.2 - 3.9

Parks, Playgrounds, and Parkways
Surface Water

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

This is an update of Figure 2.5 from the March 2000 Report of the Green Ribbon Open Space Committee. It includes new data and boundaries from the 2010 Census, as well as updated open space data from the Community Development Department.

Community Development Department
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Map prepared by Brendan Monroe on May 7, 2013.
Demographics

Population Density of Children Age 13 and Under

This is an update of Figure 2.4 from the March 2000 Report of the Green Ribbon Open Space Committee. It includes new data and boundaries from the 2010 Census, as well as updated open space data from the Community Development Department.

Community Development Department
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Map prepared by Brendan Monroe on May 7, 2013. COD GIS C:\Projects\OpenSpace\GreenRibbon\Updates\Fig2-4_2013.mxd
Demographics

Population Density

Number of Persons per Acre by Census Block Group
- 4 - 22
- 23 - 41
- 42 - 64
- 65 - 91

- Green: Parks, Playgrounds, and Pathways
- Blue: Surface Water

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

This is an update of Figure 2.3 from the March 2000 Report of the Green Ribbon Open Space Committee. It includes new data and boundaries from the 2010 Census, as well as updated open space data from the Community Development Department.

Community Development Department
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Map prepared by Brendan Monroe on May 7, 2013. CDD GIS C:\Projects\OpenSpace\GreenRibbonUpdates\Fig2-3_2013.mxd
Demographics

Low and Moderate Income Households

Percentage of Households with Low and Moderate Income by Census Tract
- 30% or fewer
- 30.1 - 40%
- 40.1 - 50%
- 50.1 - 60%
- Greater than 60%

- Parks, Playgrounds, and Pathways
- Surface Water

Source: U.S. Census ACS data via 2006-2010 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy dataset, HUDUSER.org

This is an update of Figure 2.6 from the March 2000 Report of the Green Ribbon Open Space Committee. It includes new data and boundaries from the 2010 Census, and, due to changes in the types of data released by the Census, features income data by Census tract rather than by block group.

Community Development Department
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Map prepared June 26, 2013. CDD GIS C:\Projects\OpenSpace\GreenRibbon\Updates\Fig2-6_2013.mxd
Open Space per 1000 Persons Map

This is an update of Figure 3.1 from the March 2000 Report of the Green Ribbon Open Space Committee. It includes new data and boundaries from the 2010 Census, as well as updated open space data from the Community Development Department.

Community Development Department
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census; Cambridge CDD.

Map prepared June 27, 2013. CDD GIS: C:\Projects\OpenSpace\GreenRibbonUpdated\Fig3_J_2013.md
Open Space Needs Analysis

• Located **Areas of Need** for various park types
• Determined **Top Priorities** among these areas
• Reviewed which uses were increasing in popularity and would need additional facilities
Top priority were identified for areas with:

- Higher population density
- Higher density of children
- High density of low and moderate-income households
- Higher population density per open space
Top Priorities Map
Top Priorities
Park Uses

• The creation of 3 to 4 multipurpose fields that would accommodate soccer, field hockey and lacrosse equally is a priority. If possible, these fields should be located in the eastern half of Cambridge.

• One additional full-sized high school baseball field.

• More emphasis on passive uses in the city.
Implementation – Acquisition
Greene-Rose Heritage Park
Implementation – Public Park through Development Agreement

Harvard University – New Riverside Park
Implementation – Publically accessible:
Cambridge Research Park ➔ University Park
Implementation – Protection
Fresh Pond Reservation
Implementation – Improvements
Community Gardens & Edges
New Directions: Healthy Parks & Playgrounds: Movement/Access
New Directions:
Healthy Parks & Playgrounds:
Creativity/Free Play/Water
New Directions: Riverfront Planning
New Directions: Riverfront as Destination

Hamburg
New Directions: Riverfront as Destination – Food Trucks on Riverbend Park
New Directions – Placemaking/ Programming
New Directions:
Network Planning

For more information, go to:
www.cambridgema.gov/KendallOpenSpace