Central Square
A Continuing Quest for Liveability
1980-2011

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Presentation for the K2C2 Central Square Committee
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1. Facade Improvement Program
2. Central Square MBTA
3. Central Square Enhancement Project
4. Central Square Action Plan/Central Square Overlay District
5. Central Square Improvements
6. Lafayette Square
7. Outdoor Dining
8. Next Steps

Recent history, and ongoing follow-up
1. Central Square Façade Improvements Program 1980-Present
2. Central Square MBTA Station: Platform Lengthening and Modernization 1980
Picture of C Sq Elevator upgrade
3. Central Square Enhancement 1987

Gracious entry to the Square
Setting for historic fabric
An early traffic calming project
Western Ave project

- Central Square Overlay District in Zoning Ordinance
- Provisions for National Register buildings
- Central Square Development Guidelines 1989
The Holmes Block

Special Permit #133, 1998
5. Central Square Improvements
Committee 1995
Formed by City Manager in response to recommendations from Mayor’s Commission to Promote and Enhance Central Square Now!! 1994
PEDS & BIKES
• Added bike lanes
• Subtracted 10 feet from street, added to sidewalk
• Reduced ped crossings from 70 to 55 feet
• Better pedestrian signals at crossings
BETTER PUBLIC SPACES

• Plant trees, add benches, space for outdoor dining
• High lighting for crosswalks, lower lights for sidewalks
• Carl Barron Plaza redesign
• New bus shelters, improved alleyway, landscaping in City parking lots
Pedestrian signal on Bishop Allen at Prospect
Now, wider sidewalks on Prospect a big plus
And City upgrading areas that are showing wear
6. Lafayette Square/Jill Brown-Rhone Park
Conceived in 1983, completed 2008
Makes ped flow much safer
Creates a real place
7. Outdoor Dining

• City has worked to encourage over many years
• 1369 Café one of earliest
• Flour one of newest
• Expect more will be on the way
Next Steps
Suggest improvements to design, process, etc.
Make recommendations to City
Consider links to Kendall Sq via Transition Area