The Planning Board of the City of Cambridge will hold a public hearing on September 22, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., conducted remotely (see below for directions) on a petition by Francis E. Donovan et. al. to amend Article 4.000 Use Regulations and Article 5.000 Dimensional Standards of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge, for the stated purpose of increasing affordable housing.

Specifically, the proposed zoning amendments would modify the permitted uses in the Residence A-1 and A-2 zoning districts to allow two family housing and existing dwellings converted to dwellings for up to three families, in addition to detached dwellings, with restrictions including limiting the extent of exterior alterations on the site and other requirements. The proposed zoning amendments would also make modifications to dimensional standards in both districts by reducing the minimum lot area per dwelling unit in Residence A-1 districts from 6,000 square feet per unit to 4,500 square feet per unit if all alterations are within the existing building envelope, and reducing minimum private open space to lot area ratio requirements in both Residence A-1 and A-2 districts from 50% to 45%.

Copies of the petition are on file in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts and at the Community Development Department, 344 Broadway, and online at www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/zoninganddevelopment/zoning/amendments. Questions concerning the petition may be addressed to Liza Paden at 617/349-4647 or lpaden@cambridgema.gov.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to statewide emergency orders limiting the size of public gatherings in response to COVID-19, and in accordance with Governor Charles D. Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, temporarily amending certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, as well as the City of Cambridge Temporary Emergency Restrictions on City Public Meetings, City Events and City Permitted Events Due to COVID-19 amended on July 30, 2020, meetings of the Planning Board will be held with remote participation until further notice.

Members of the public can view the meeting online or on cable television within Cambridge, provide comments before the meeting in writing to planningboardcomment@cambridgema.gov, and attend virtually online or by telephone.

Review Information about Remote Planning Board Meetings:
www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/zoninganddevelopment/planningboard/remoteplanningboardmeetings

A link to attend the meeting virtually will be posted in advance on the Meeting Agenda:

If you do not have a computer or e-mail address, please call Swaathi Joseph at 617-349-4668.