

## Riley, Kate

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**From:** Gianetti, Lee  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 21, 2020 8:06 PM  
**To:** DePasquale, Louie; Peterson, Lisa; Riley, Kate  
**Cc:** Carvello, Maryellen; Cooper, Stacey  
**Subject:** Fwd: Tobin School

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**From:** ALVIN HELFELD [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 21, 2020 8:03:39 PM  
**To:** City Manager <CityManager@CambridgeMA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Tobin School

Dear Louis,

Thank you for your responsiveness to the feedback given by the community and providing us with new options.

We are most comfortable with Option #1 because it retains many of the positive features of the existing situation, and will require the least adjustment for the neighborhood. It is similar to what exists on Vassal Lane and doesn't disrupt Alpine St. and Concord Ave residents.

1. Option #1 leaves a large area of open green space which is easy to access. Research finds that this is good for the mental and physical health of people. Preserving such a space is especially important since such large public spaces are on the decline due to all the development in the area.
2. Option #1 does not add additional commotion to the traffic mess on Concord.
3. Option #1 does not impose buildings so close to the backyards of Alpine St.
4. Option #1 uses its space more efficiently by incorporating a fourth floor section in the rear of the building.
5. Option #1 retains the baseball field in the present location, which has been for many years part of the local culture, where the kids play, the parents cheer, and the coaches coach.

We would like to suggest one possible improvement in Option #1. If part of the rear section of the building were reconfigured so that it wraps around the southeast corner of the Armory parking lot, it would increase the open space area closer to what exists at present. The residents of the parking lot and gas station will not complain.

We are hopeful that you agree with these ideas.

Best Wishes,

Alvin & Susan Helfeld