## Volpe Working Group October 20, 2016



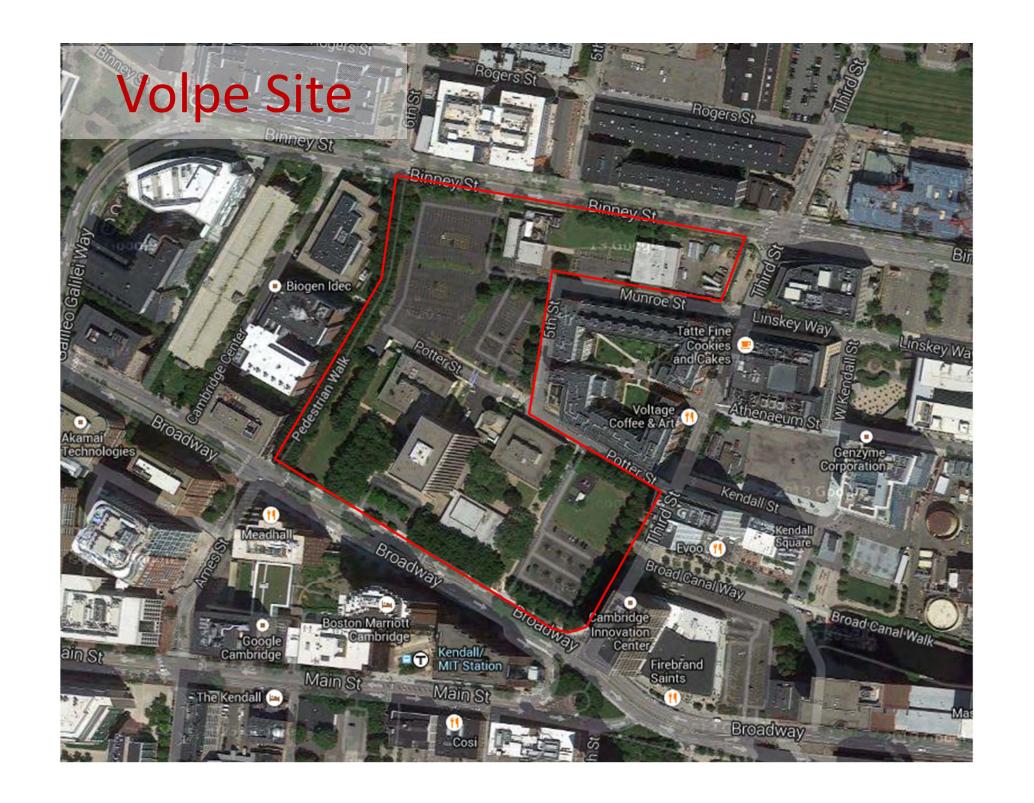
**Community Development Department** 



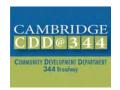
## **Volpe Working Group**



PURPOSE: To discuss and develop an urban design framework and set of planning principles to provide guidance to potential developers about the City's priorities and expectations for the site.



## **Volpe Center**



- Facilities built in 1960s for NASA (not completed)
- U.S. National Transportation
   Systems Center has occupied
   since 1970
- 14.2-acre site
- 1,200+ workers
- No major site improvements in 45-46 years



## 1978 Rezoning

CAMBRIDGE CDD @ 3 4 4

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 344 Bracebusy

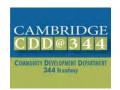
- Formerly Industry B (4.0 FAR, few use restrictions)
- Zoned to Office 3A (3.0 FAR, office/residential only)

## ECaPS Rezoning (2001)



- Transition in land uses from Broadway to neighborhoods
- Lower heights closer to the neighborhoods, taller heights closer to Broadway.
- Create a strong residential presence in the area.
- Require a major new public park
- Encourage retail on Third Street and Broadway
- 3.0 FAR allowed only by PUD special permit

## Kendall Square (K2) Plan



- April 2011 June 2012
- 20-person Advisory Committee -residents, businesses, property owners/developers, MIT, Kendall Square Association, Cambridge Redevelopment Authority
- Multidisciplinary consultant team led by Goody Clancy
- 18 committee meetings
- 2 public meetings + 2 hands-on working sessions
- Study area walking tour
- City Council roundtable + Planning Board discussions

Companion process: **neighborhood sponsored** ECPT/CBT plan



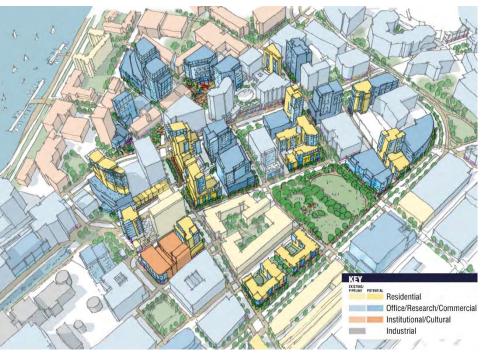


## **Vision for Kendall Square**

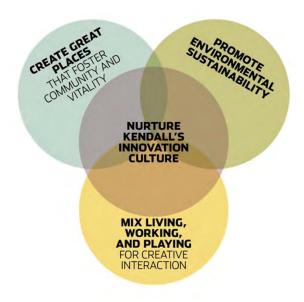
"A dynamic **public realm** connecting diverse choices for **living**, **working**, **learning**, and **playing** to inspire continued success of Cambridge's **sustainable**, **globally-significant** innovation community."



ECPT Planning Vision (CBT Architects + Planners)



K2 Planning Vision (Goody Clancy)



## **K2** Recommendations: Housing



- Required along with commercial growth
- Affordable and Middle-Income units
- Diverse household types, including families with children
- Payments to Affordable Housing Trust for non-residential development (now \$12+ per square foot)



## **K2** Recommendations: Active Ground Floors





- Active Uses: food stores, convenience stores, shops, restaurants, cultural and community space (not lobbies)
- Required: 75% of frontage along major streets; encouraged on all public streets and open spaces
- **Small Retail:** Incentives for spaces 5,000 square feet or less

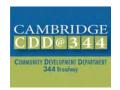
## **K2** Recommendations: Public Open Space



- "Connect Kendall Square" integrated system of open space connecting residents, workers, businesses and the natural environment
- Volpe Site as an opportunity for major new civic space(s)



## **K2** Recommendations: Innovation Space



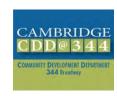
- Small companies & individuals on short-term leases
- Shared workspaces
- In new or existing buildings, or in partnership with other property owners
- Required for at least 5% of new office development
- Incentives to encourage more space than the minimum







## **K2** Recommendations: Sustainability





- LEED Gold, enhanced energy efficiency
- Stormwater control and urban heat island mitigation
- Encourage on-site energy systems and co-gen;
- Assess district steam potential for new buildings
- Energy use disclosure (BEUDO)
- Anticipate net-zero and climate resiliency goals

## **K2** Recommendations: Transportation

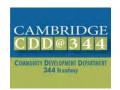


Parking: Reduce, manage and share

Use	Auto Parking			
	Minimum	Maximum		
R&D		0.8 sp/1000 sq. ft.		
Office	Based on analysis	0.9 sp/1000 sq. ft.		
Retail/consumer	_	0.5 sp/1000 sq. ft.		
service				
Residential	0.5 sp/du	0.75 sp/du		

- PTDM requirements and enhanced TDM
- PUD process includes review of street/circulation design, transportation impacts and mitigation
- Desired transit routes identified in K2 study

## **K2** Recommendations: Community Funds



• \$10 per square foot commercial development

**Open Space Programming** 

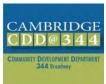
**Transit Improvements** 

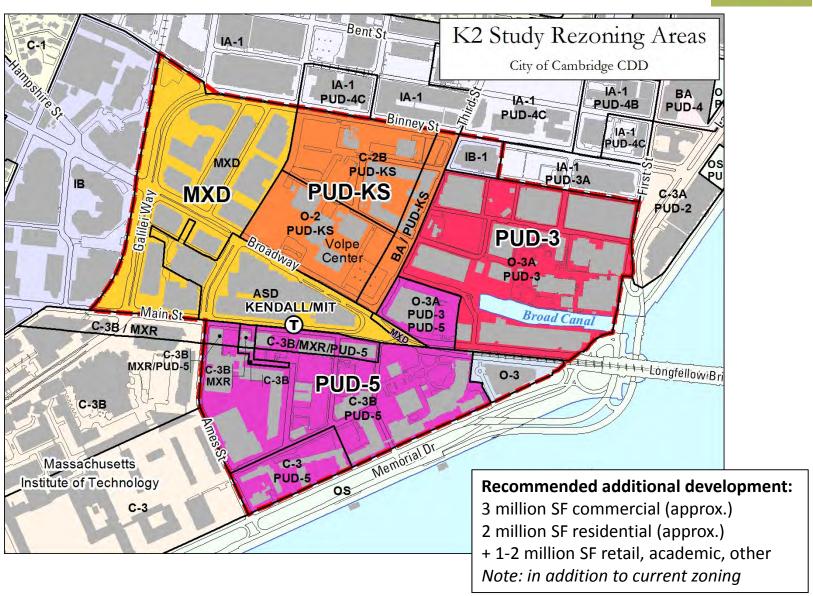
**Workforce Readiness** 





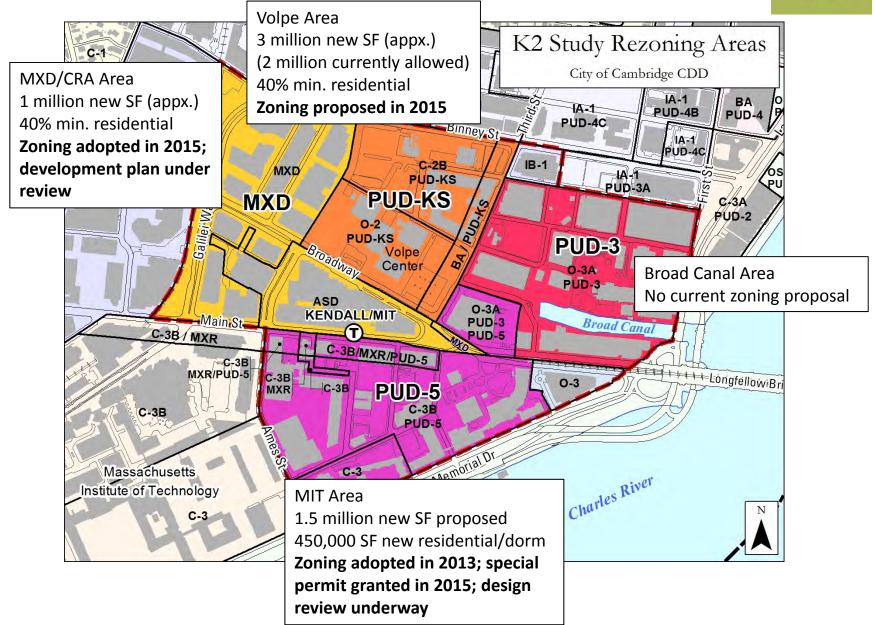
## **K2 Zoning Recommendations**





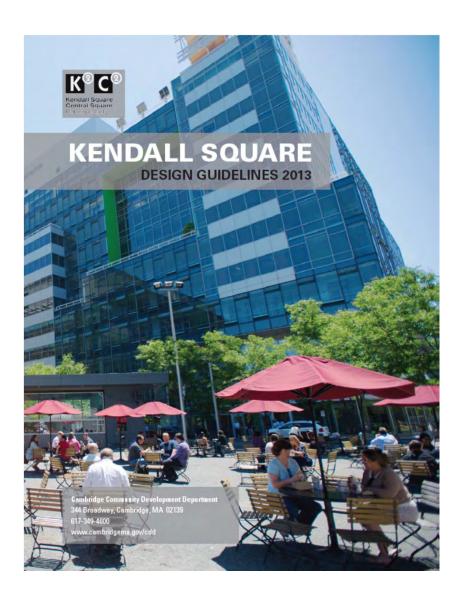
## **K2 Zoning Recommendations: Current Status**





## **Urban Design**





- Public review process for development plans
- Guidelines for public space and building design



## **Public Development Review Process**



## **Zoning (City Council)**

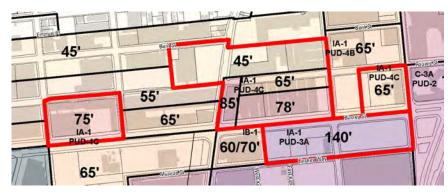
## **PUD Special Permit (Planning Board)**

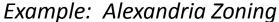
### **Development Controls:**

- Maximum development (FAR)
- Maximum heights
- Minimum housing, affordable housing
- Minimum open space
- Parking requirements
- Sustainability requirements
- Other requirements/incentives

#### Development Plan Review:

- Site layout
- Building massing
- Open space design
- Retail plan
- Housing plan
- Project construction/phasing
- Design review (ongoing)



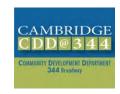




Alexandria PUD Development Plan

**Public hearings at both phases** 

## **Volpe Site: Exchange Process (2014-present)**





- Federal government will exchange most of the site for a new building
- Competitive process to select a development partner
- Government retains new Volpe site (approx. 3 acres)
- Remainder of site developed privately under City's zoning (approx. 11 acres)

Exchange Partner
Solicitation
(RFP/RFQ)

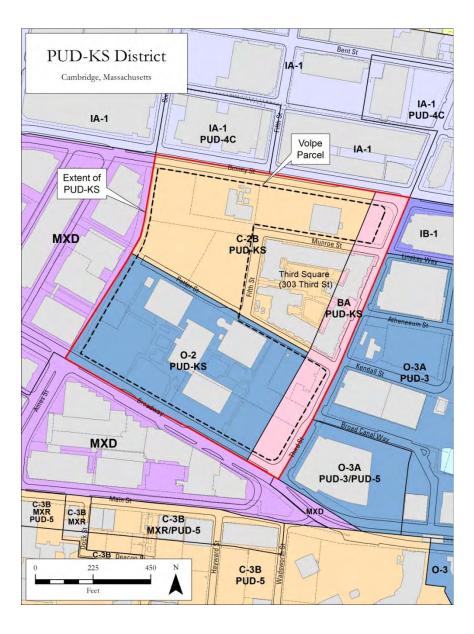
**Exchange Partner Selection** 

Transaction **Execution** 

www.gsa.gov/volpecenter

## **PUD-KS Initial Zoning Proposal (2015)**





- CDD proposal based on K2 zoning recommendations
- Planning Board discussions
   January-May 2015
- City Council and Planning Board public hearings June-July 2015
- Community engagement summer-fall 2015
- Additional public hearings
   October-December 2015

## **PUD-KS Initial Zoning Proposal (June, 2015)**

	Current Zoning		
Allowed "Base" FAR	3.0 / 3.36 4.5 (w/inclusionary bonus) (no additional bonus)		
Housing	40% minimum 40% minimum		
Affordable Housing (as % of total housing)	11.5% low-moderate (effective after bonus)	10% low-moderate 5% middle income 15% total	
Public Open Space	42% / 53%	At least 25%	
(as % of parcel area)	(7.5 acres)	(3.5+ acres)	
Parking	Minimums	Maximums	
<b>Ground Floor Retail</b>	Incentivized	Required (major streets)	
Innovation Space	N/A	Min. 5% of office/lab	
Sustainability/Environmental	LEED Silver	LEED Gold + other req's	
Community Funds	N/A	\$10/sq.ft. commercial	
Government Facility	Flexibility allowed	Encouraged in PUD	

## **Volpe Site: Initial Zoning Proposal (June, 2015)**

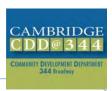


	Current Zoning	<b>Proposed Zoning</b>
Site Area	620,000 620,000	
Residential	967,000 (min) 1,116,000 (min)	
Office / Lab (not including Innovation Space)	1,086,000 (max)	1,632,000 (max)
Retail	50,000 140,000	
Innovation Space (min)	0 84,000	
Total Private Development	2,103,000	2,972,000

Figures in Square Feet of Gross Floor Area

**ALL FIGURES APPROXIMATE** 

## **Council comments - Joint Hearing June 29, 2015**



#### Housing

- Proportion of housing
- Affordable housing (low-mod, mid)
- Housing for families

#### **Ground floor uses and activities**

- Family-friendly restaurants
- Low-price supermarket
- Ground floor retail needs more specificity
- Affordable retail & locally-owned
- Retail to attract people
- Workforce development needs
- Incubator space
- Daycare

#### **Other**

- Cost and size of Volpe building & site
- FAR of 4.5 is dense
- Transportation traffic impacts, red line
- Development feasibility
- Have community conversation

#### Open space & public realm

- Needs to be very special
- Building facades matter
- Need family-friendly open spaces
- Maximize sunlight & livability
- Contiguous one primary, a secondary
- Visibility from different vantage points
- Programming
- No gates, needs to face streets
- Welcoming to the neighborhoods
- Engaging & educational indoor & outdoor
- Civic, not corporate space medieval plaza
- Accessibility of federally-owned open space

#### **Built form**

- Composition of buildings respect each other, especially at the lower level
- Floor plate sizes important
- Don't wall off site
- 2 setbacks instead of just one
- Design guidelines need more detail

## Planning Board comments – June 29 & July 14, 2015



#### Land use

- Supporting high-tech & innovation is most important goal for site
- Proportion of housing versus commercial/office space
- Affordable housing (low-mod, middle)
- Housing for families (3 beds)

#### **Ground floor uses and activities**

- Retail where it is going to be located, and what sort of retail it is going to be
- Design guidelines can include retail

#### Other

- Need financial analysis
- FAR of 4.5 is a lot of sqf to assemble across the site
- Transit impacts

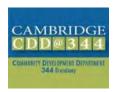
#### Open space and public realm

- Amount of open space
- Connections are the key for open space
- Connect Kendall shows how to make space function without 5-acre park – it's not the right location for such a large park
- Extend the canal and create more connections through the site

#### Built form & urban design

- Where taller buildings should be located & whether there's a limitation on that area in which they can be located
- Need human-scale
- Need vision for creating a great space
- Broadway & Third St intersection is important
- Variation in height
- Concentrate on people who live and work there & neighborhoods
- Allowing more height for the residential

## **Conceptual Massing Studies**

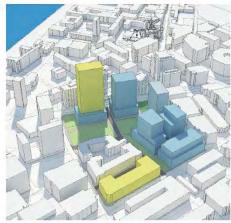


**CONCEPTUAL MASSING STUDY 1** 



CONCEPTUAL MASSING STUDY 2





 One larger residential tower at 500'

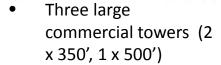
• One commercial tower at 350'

CONCEPTUAL MASSING STUDY 3



**CONCEPTUAL MASSING STUDY 4** 







One large commercial tower with a height of 1000'

• Two commercial towers at 350'

Two slender

residential towers

(350' and 500')

Conceptual illustration only – not a development plan

## Community outreach (2015)









#### **Seven drop-in conversations**

- 1. July 30<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm at Clement Morgan Park
- 2. Aug 5<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm at Rogers Street Park
- 3. Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, 11am-2pm at Lafayette Square
- 4. Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, 2-5 pm at Greene Rose Park
- Aug 20<sup>th</sup>, 11am-2pm at Kendall Square Farmers' Market
- 6. Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 11am-4pm at The Pride Day
- 7. Sept 18<sup>th</sup>, 9am-4pm at The Parking Day

#### Sit-down forum

Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 12pm Kennedy-Longfellow School

#### Other meetings

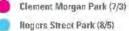
Area 4, ECPT

#### COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS WHAT IS MISSING / WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN KENDALL SQUARE?

## THE MOST NEEDED USE/SPACE IN THE AREA (VOTE FOR YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES)























5. CONVENIENCE STORE /

























...

8. MUSEUM/GALLERY







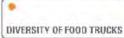










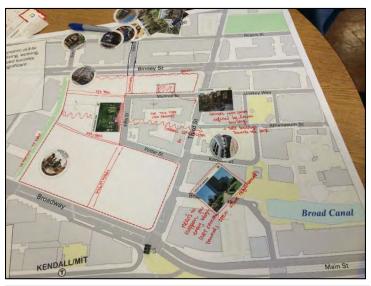


#### COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS WHAT IS MISSING / WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN KENDALL SQUARE? TYPES OF OPEN SPACE (VOTE FOR YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES) 6. NATURE WALK 7. ROOFTOP GARDEN 🥮 🧶 MINIATURE GOLF/ BATTING CAGE 2. INNOVATIVE/ UNIQUE SEATING DDG PARK / DQG RUM · an heral statement i . 🏮 🍭 HA BERTSTRAGE 4. SCULPTURE / ART INSTALLATION 5. PICTURESQUE PARK 3. URBAN WETLANDS 8. PLAYGROUND 17. LIVES. 9. WATER FOUNTAIN 16 GRASS LAWN 9.8 11 THEE-COVERED LAWN 15. PEDESTRIANIZED STREET WITH ..... . . ACTIVE EDGES ...... 12 CANAL WALKWAY 14. LARGE OPEN PLAZA ... ...... 10. INDOOR/OUTDOOR PAVILLION 13. COURTYARD A possible tils a fame, open statobre provident RESIDENT STREET PARKING MORE BENCHES phairer in parks and disease.

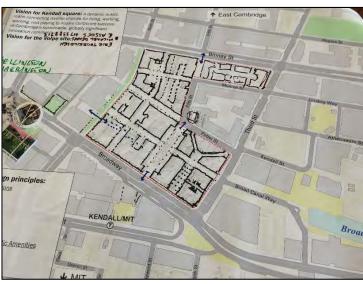
## **Community forum (2015)**

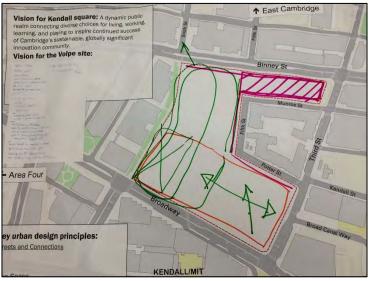
# CAMBRIDGE CDD@3444 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 344 Broodway

## Site planning and design





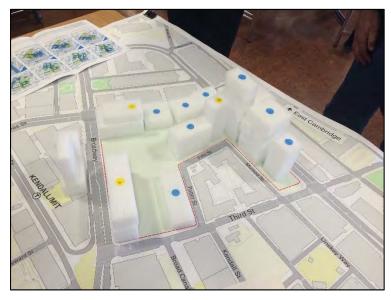




## Community forum (2015)

## **Built form**













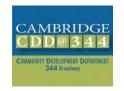
#### **Open Space**

- Large, consolidated park vs. collection of smaller, more intimate spaces
- Active play basketball, playground, water features
- Passive, natural setting to escape city
- More active, lively urban plaza
- Extend Broad Canal
- Indoor/outdoor market pavilion









- Active & defined edges
- Sense of safety
- Public feel
- Visible from outside site
- Not overshadowed or overwhelmed by buildings
- Focus on outdoor spaces with some indoor opportunities
- Smaller open spaces need to be well-designed
- Streets to connect with open space
- Quality & character of the place is important

#### **Ground Floor Uses**

- Grocery fresh produce
- Family restaurant, incl. fast-order food, chains
- Pharmacy / Convenience Store
- More nightlife
- Affordable Daycare
- Workforce training space
- Connect Cambridge residents to new jobs
- Community & cultural spaces







- Diverse & affordable retail
- Flexibility
- Smaller spaces
- Larger spaces to accommodate chains
- Not all needs can be met on the Volpe site
- Need to create destinations & retail attractors

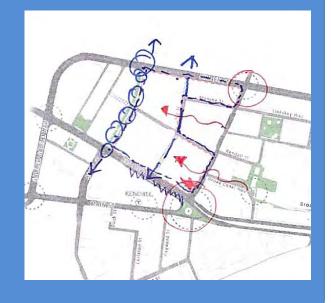
#### CAMBRIDGE CDD@344 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 344 Broadway

#### **Streets & Connections**

- 6th street walkway is important
- North-south connections for pedestrians & cyclists
- Don't forget connections to East Cambridge
   & Wellington-Harrington
- Connections though Third Square
- Need some cars so site is not isolated
- Narrow Binney Street
- Transit improvements









#### **Built Form**

- Recognition that this is the right location for density
- Create an urban environment with strong urban form
- Taller buildings distributed throughout site
- Taller buildings clustered towards the middle of the site
- Capitalize on the corner of Broadway & Third St
- Avoid tall buildings on Binney St
- Transition to sensitive uses
- Consider low buildings & strong edge on sixth street connector
- Access open space through buildings
- Buildings need to have Cambridge character

- Encourage human scale within an urban setting
- Don't want suburbs
- Start with an assemblage of places (not objects or buildings)
- Design buildings to frame public spaces
- Building height & massing, especially of taller buildings, should not overwhelm streets or open spaces
- Visual & physical permeability

## **Major Proposed Modifications**



## Affordable Housing Requirements

15% low-moderate + 5% middle income minimum

#### Open Space

Detailing desired open space functions

Limiting how much of the requirement can be met on a Federal site

### Height

More flexibility in arrangement, limiting bulk at taller elevations

#### Active Uses

More desired ground floor uses including grocery stores, family-serving uses, small independent operators; limitations on banks

### Urban Design

Urban Design Framework to inform future development review

## **Modifications: Affordable Housing**





APPROXIMATE	<b>Current Zoning</b>	Initial Proposal	Modifications
Total Units	879	1,014	1,014
Low-Moderate Units	101	101	152
Middle Income Units	None required	51	51
Total Affordable Units	101	152	203

# **Modifications: Public Open Space**

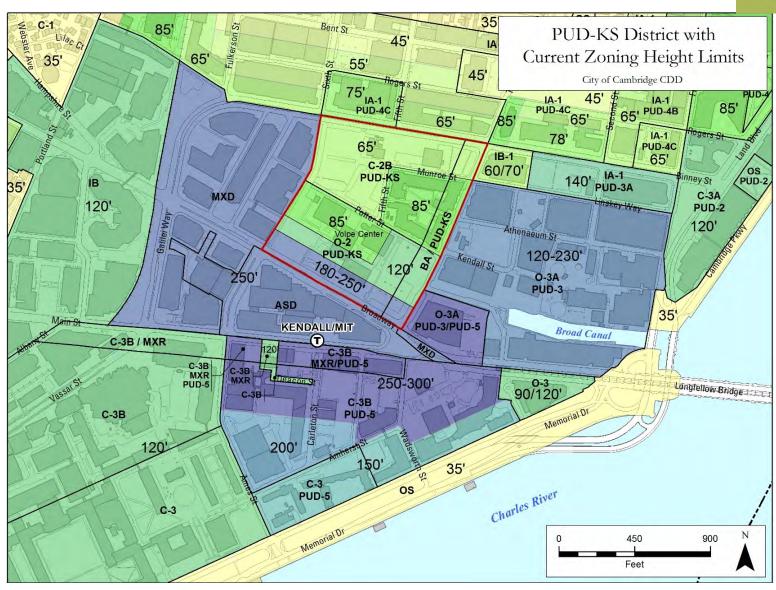


- System: All spaces must serve a public function, integrate with the area's open space network
- Civic park or plaza: Required element of the public open space system
- Federal site: Fulfills no more than half of requirement



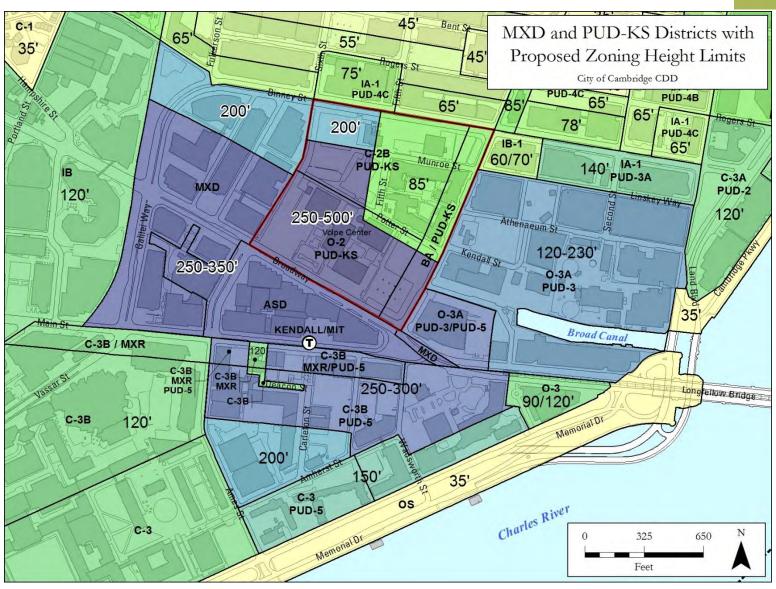
# **Height Limits: Current**



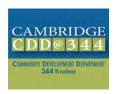


# **Height Limits: Proposed Modifications**





# **Height Limits: Proposed Modifications**

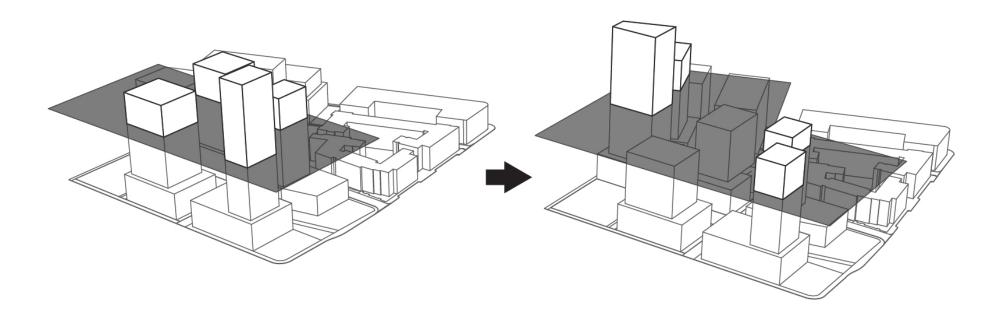


#### Above 250 feet:

No more than 15,000 SF floor plate No more than 10% of parcel area total (62,000 SF)

#### Above 350 feet:

No more than one building as a distinctive landmark Planning Board can reject a proposal if it does not provide the desired benefit, in favor of a plan with a 350-foot limit

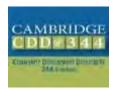


#### **Modifications: Active Ground Floors**

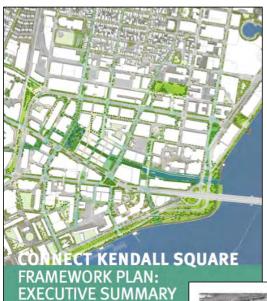


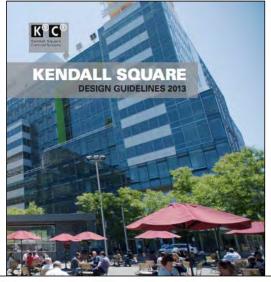


- Required: 75% of frontage along major streets
- Incentivized: spaces of 5,000 square feet or less
- Active Uses Must Include: grocery, market, general store space for small operators (2,500 square feet or less)
- Active Uses May Include: child care, recreation, education and cultural uses for families
- Active Uses May Not Include: banks, office lobbies



#### **Background materials**



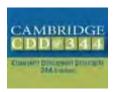


# VOLPE SITE REZONING COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS The City is considering a zoning change that would guide the transformation of 14 acres in the heart of Kendall Square. Join us in discussing this proposal!

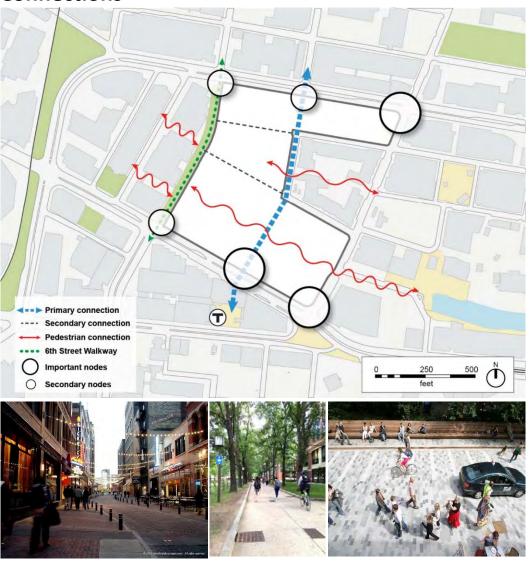
#### **Purpose**

- Visually represent the City's and the community's key goals and aspirations for the site
- 2. Inform the City's review process for development projects
- 3. Identify key principles, concepts, and ideas



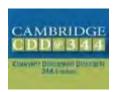


#### **Connections**



#### Main organizing features

- Extend surrounding streets and connections into the site (e.g., Fifth Street and Broad Canal Way)
- 2. Enhancement of the Sixth Street Walkway
- 3. Provision of different types of connections (e.g., shared streets, multi-modal streets, bike lanes, mid-block connections, alleys etc.)

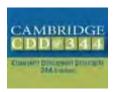


#### **Open space**

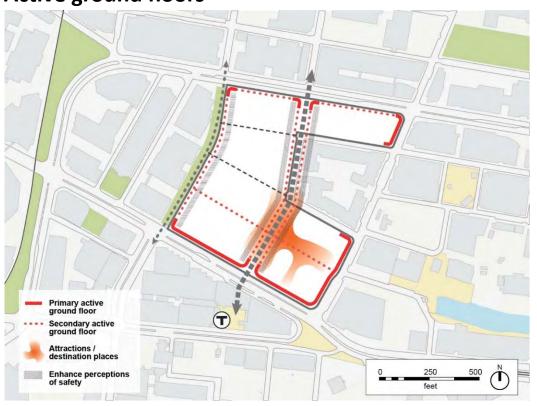


#### Main organizing features

- Network of open space areas organized along the extension of Fifth Street and/or Broad Canal Way
- 2. The corner of Broadway and Third Street as a gateway
- 3. A balanced mix of lively gathering spaces and more naturalistic, passive parks



#### **Active ground floors**



#### Main organizing features

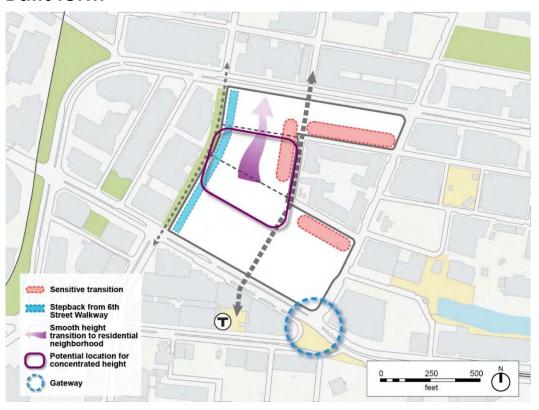
- Creating a hierarchy of streets with different activity levels
- Concentration of destination type activities







#### **Built form**



#### Main organizing features

 areas and interfaces that require careful and sensitive transition to the surrounding environment

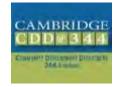
Also includes matters the Planning Board should consider when determining if a tall building is a "distinctive architectural landmark"



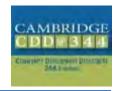
#### **Housing for families**



 Design objectives and guidelines to address key siting and design issues relating to housing for families with children.



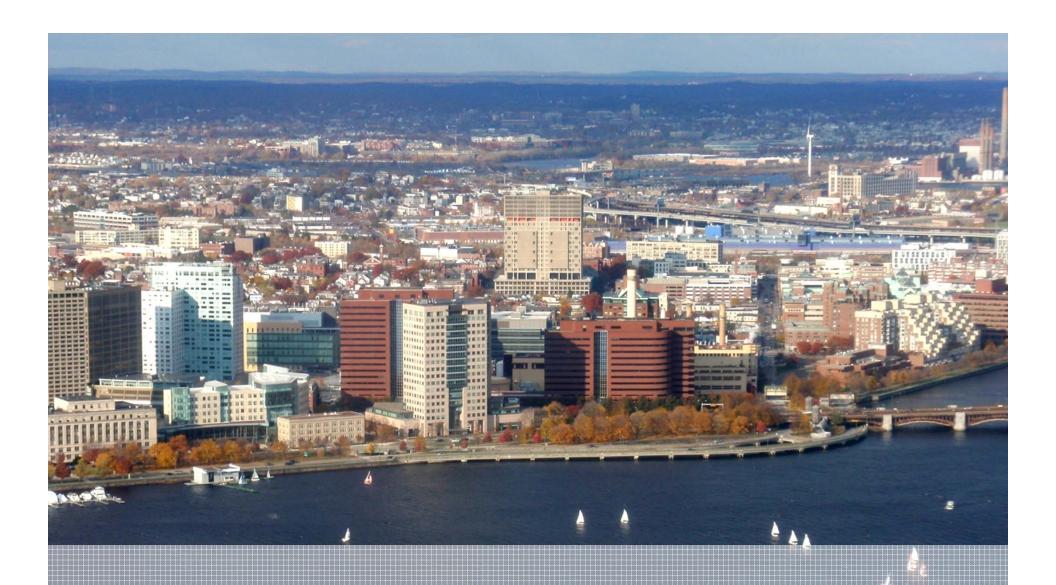






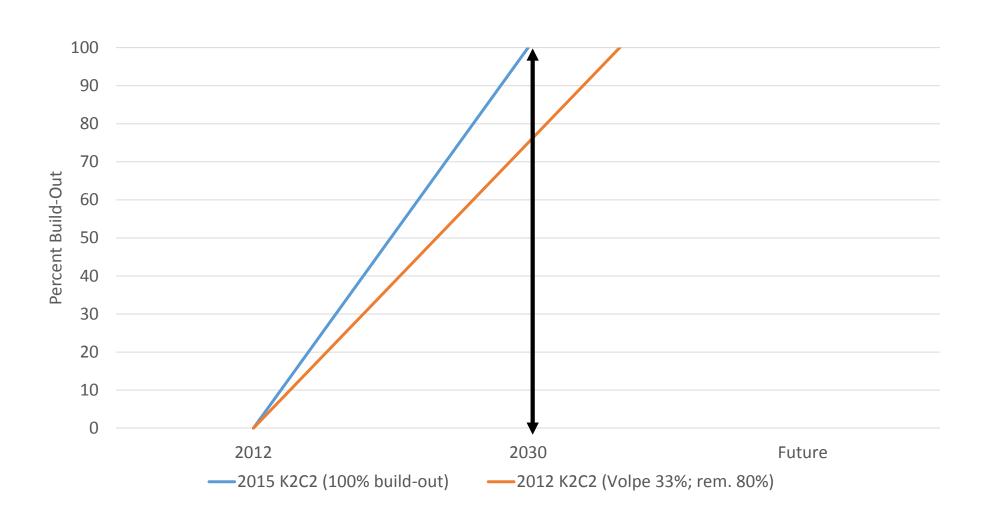
# **Benefits of PUD-KS Zoning Proposal (as Modified)**

Housing	<ul> <li>1,000 units minimum (approx.)</li> <li>150 affordable, 50 middle-income (approx.)</li> <li>\$20+ million in total incentive zoning payments</li> </ul>
Active Ground Floors	<ul> <li>Continuous active use on Third Street, Broadway</li> <li>Up to 140,000 SF ground-floor retail including grocery/market, small operators, family uses</li> </ul>
Public Open Space	<ul> <li>At least 3.5+ acres Public Open Space</li> <li>Connections to adjacent streets and spaces</li> <li>At least one major civic plaza/park, other public functions</li> </ul>
Innovation Space	84,000 SF (approx.) at full commercial buildout
Transportation	Cap on total parking
Sustainability	<ul> <li>LEED Gold + energy, stormwater requirements</li> <li>Additional requirements from Net Zero Plan</li> </ul>
Community Funds	• \$16+ million total for open space programming, transit improvements, workforce readiness
Urban Design	<ul> <li>General K2 Design Guidelines</li> <li>Site-Specific PUD-KS Urban Design Framework</li> </ul>

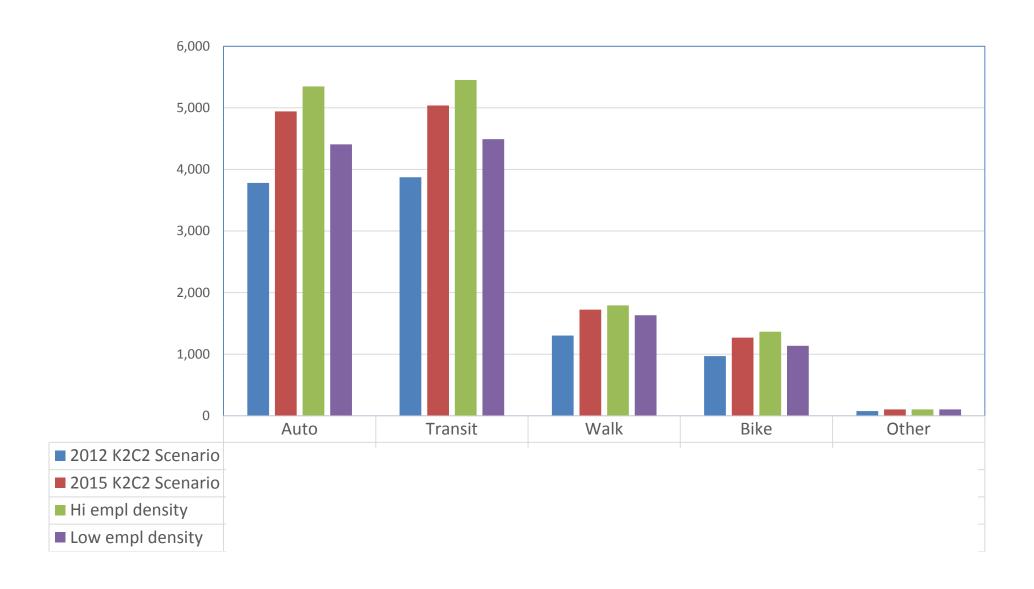


**K2C2 Transportation Analysis** 

# Pace of Development Scenarios



# 2030 Estimated Person Trips by Mode



# Approach

- Current zoning requires traffic study and mitigation program
- Require transit analysis and mitigation
- Link to milestones, thresholds or performance standards
- Current proposal includes \$10 per square foot requirement (\$6.67 for open space and transit)
- Final Development Plan/Special Permit to include specific and detailed set of requirements



# Assumptions and Methodology

Capital Assumptions	
Interest Rate (Total Project Costs)	6.00%
LTV (Total Project Costs)	60.00%

Affordable Housing Assumptions	
65% AMI	15.00%
95% AMI	5.00%

Program	Total Proposed SF	Percent of Total
Residential	1,116,000	38%
Office	816,000	27%
Lab	816,000	27%
Retail	140,000	5%
Innovation	84,000	3%
Total	2,972,000	100%

Estimated Construction Costs (Hai	d & Soft)*
Residential	\$407 per GSF
Office	\$358 per GSF
Lab	\$413 per GSF
Retail	\$330 per GSF
Innovation	\$358 per GSF
Parking	\$100,000/space

\*Projected construction costs are based on current projects being built in the Cambridge area and do not reflect any sensitivity to future design requirements, unusual ground or soil conditions, or other unique costs associated with redevelopment.

Source: HR&A Advisors, Inc.

# Land Value Output

**Costs Included in Program Analysis** 

**Building construction** 

Soft costs

On site improvements

Inclusionary and Middle Income Housing

**Commercial Linkage Payments** 

Community Fund @ \$10/gsf

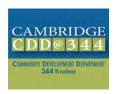
# **Preliminary Results**

Estimated Land Value	Per GSF	Total (1)
Residential (2)	\$58	\$65,000,000
Office	\$155	\$126,000,000
Lab	\$199	\$162,000,000
Retail	\$68	\$10,000,000
Innovation	\$129	\$11,000,000
Subtotal-Residual Land Value (3)	\$126	\$374,000,000
Financing and Other Costs (4)	-\$30	-\$91,000,000
Subtotal-Financing and Other Costs	-\$30	-\$91,000,000
Supportable Site and Volpe Replacement Costs	\$95	\$283,000,000

- (1) Rounded to the nearest million.
- (2) The residual land values of the market-rate and affordable components are \$120 and -\$192, respectively.
- (3) Based on proposed program SF.
- (4) Includes incentive/linkage fees, debt, and equity costs.

Source: HR&A Advisors, Inc.

### "Frequently Raised Issues"



#### Housing

Amount, types

#### Open Space

Size, configuration, character, activities

#### Built Form

Key principles of scale, transition, building typology

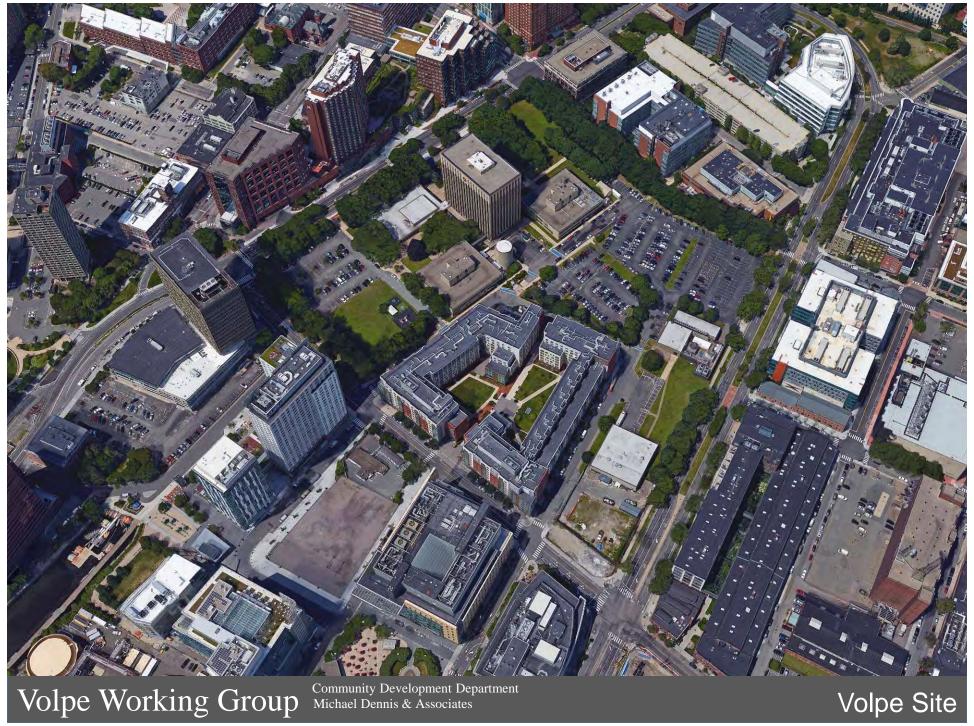
#### Active Uses

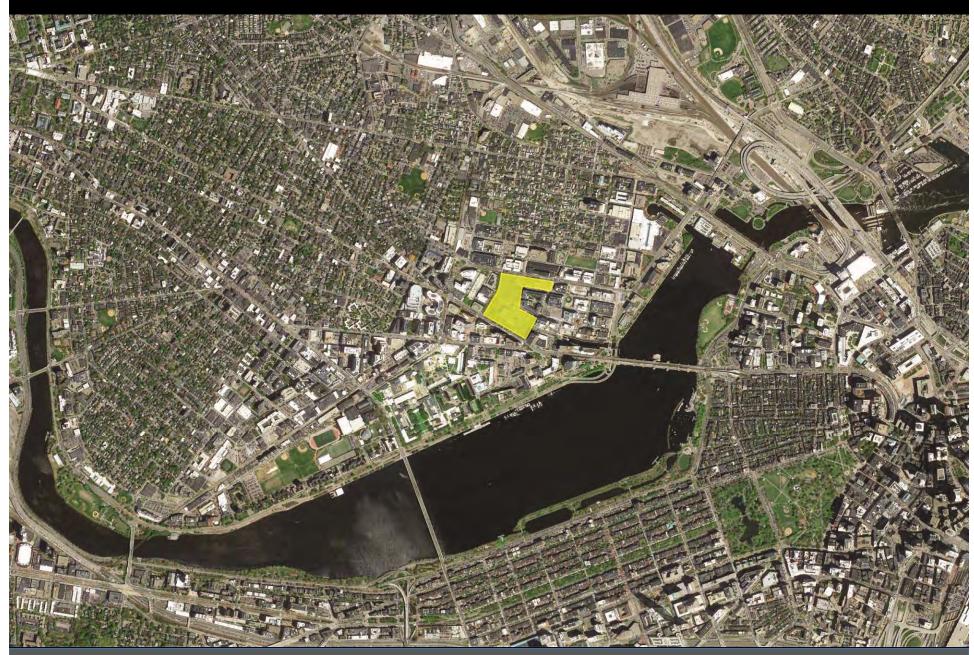
How to serve a wide range of community members, bring a more diverse community to Kendall Square?

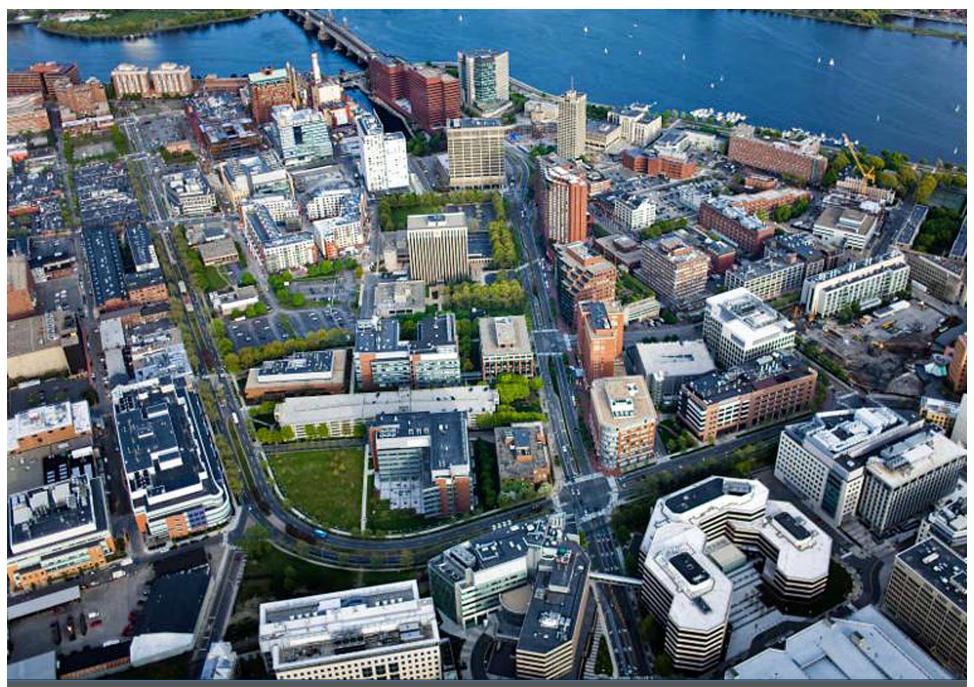
#### Redevelopment Strategy

What can be supported by future commercial development?















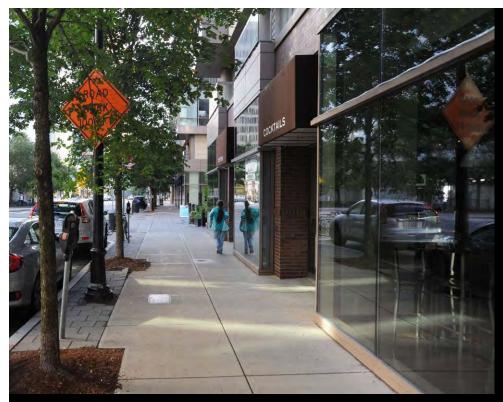






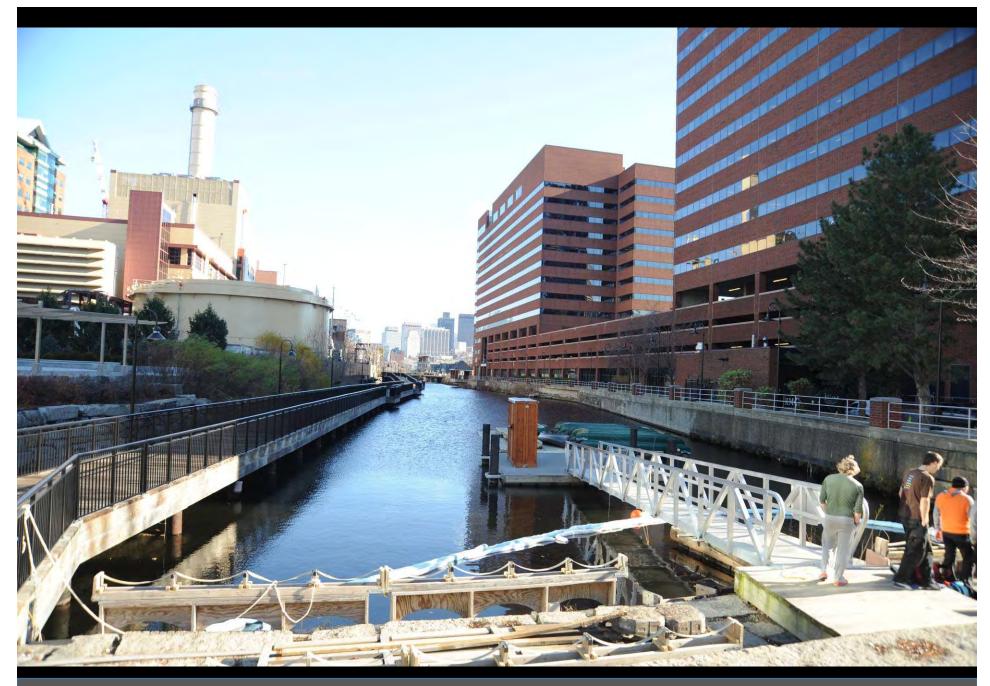














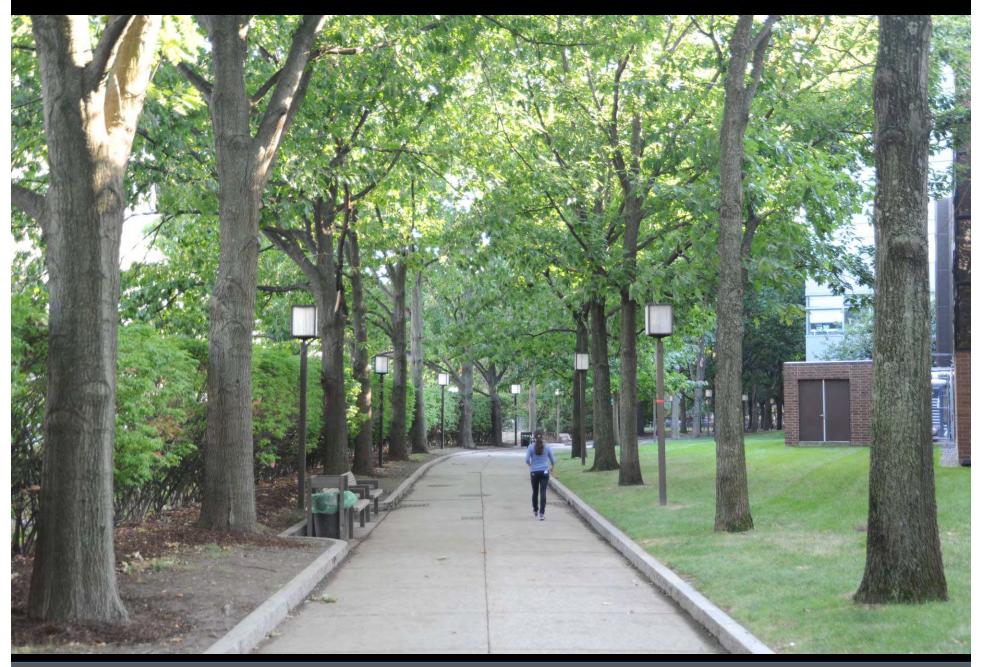






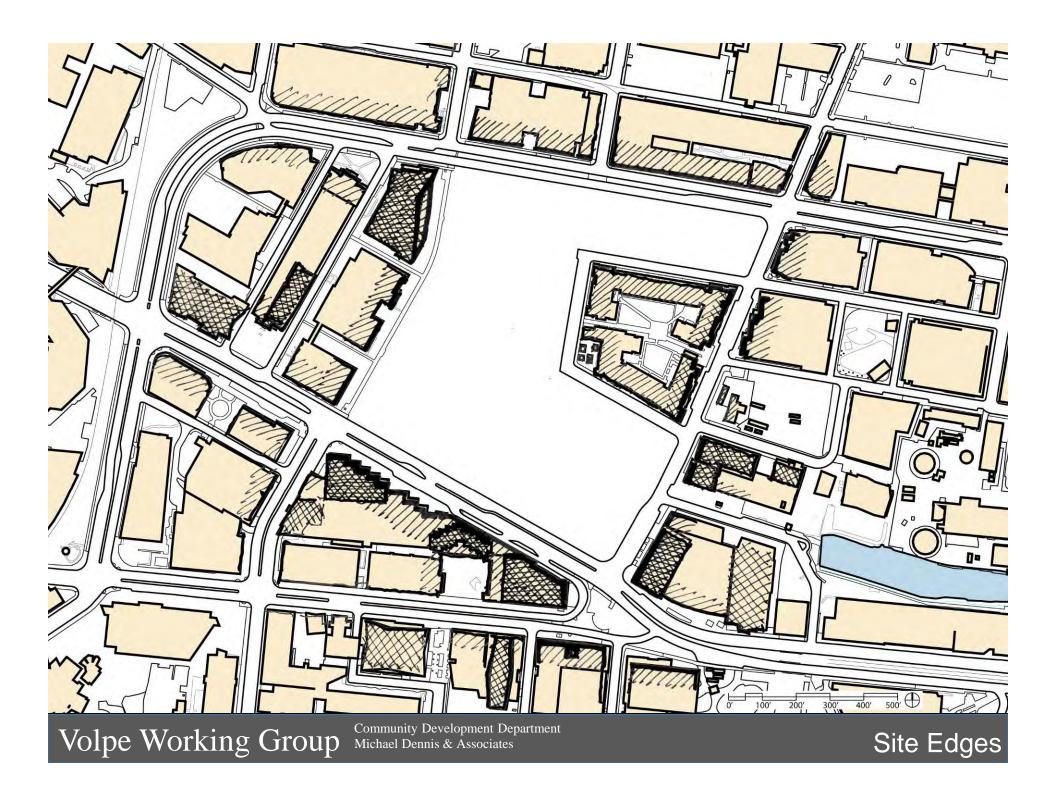


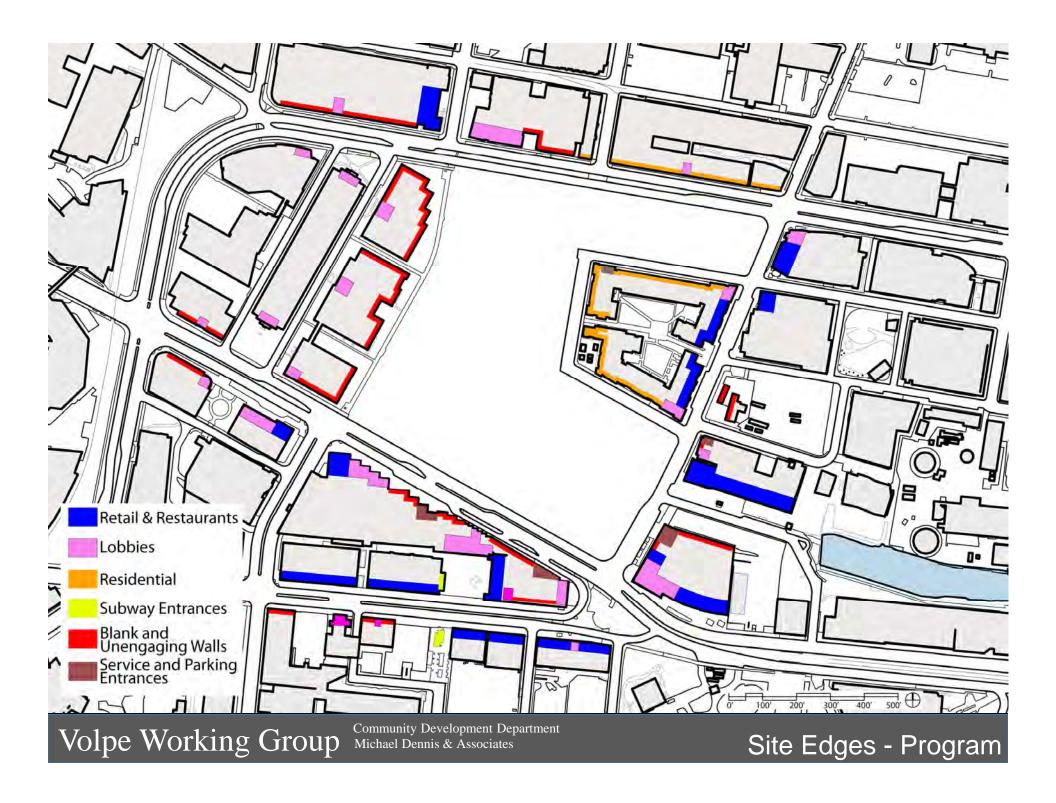




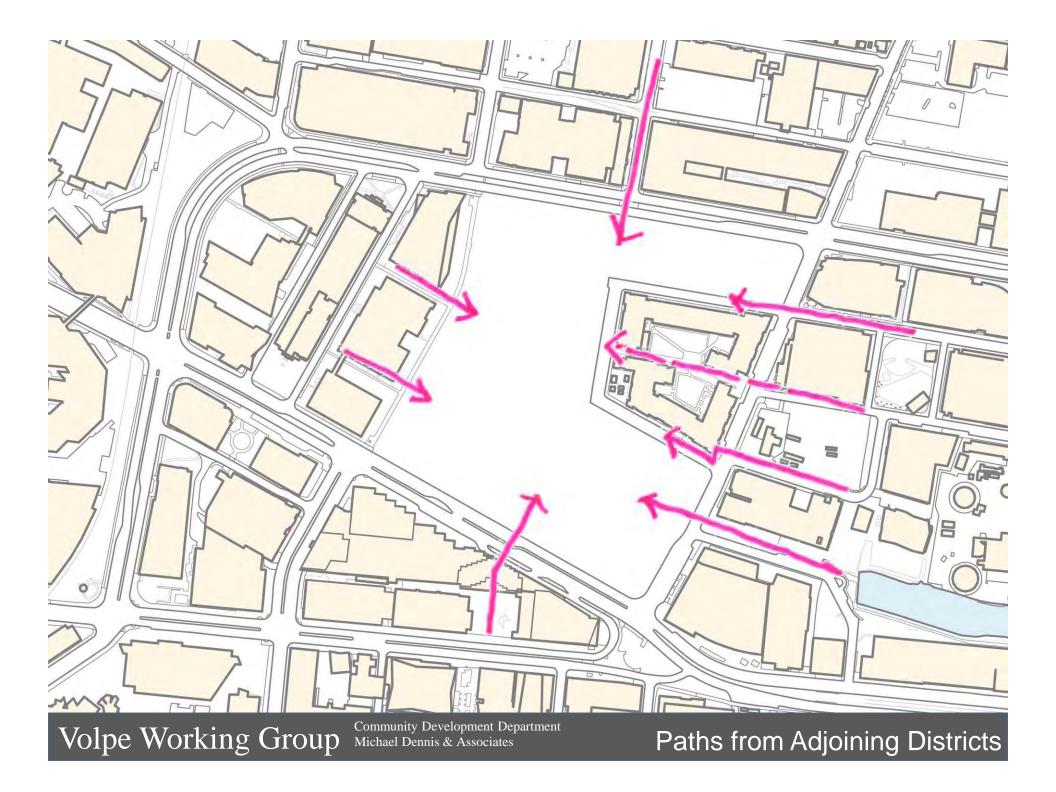


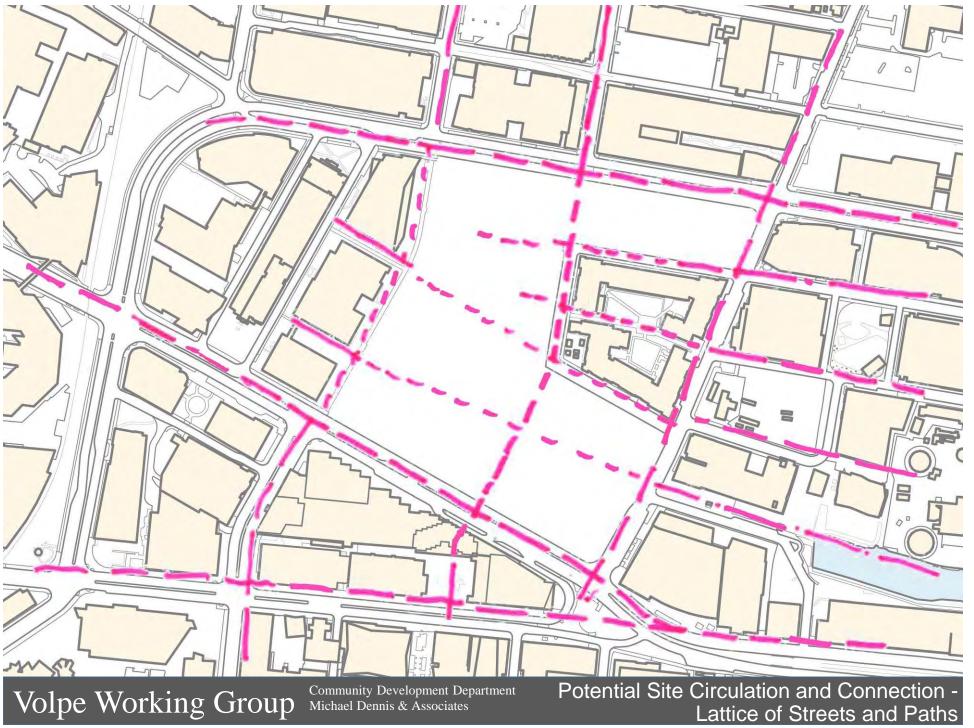




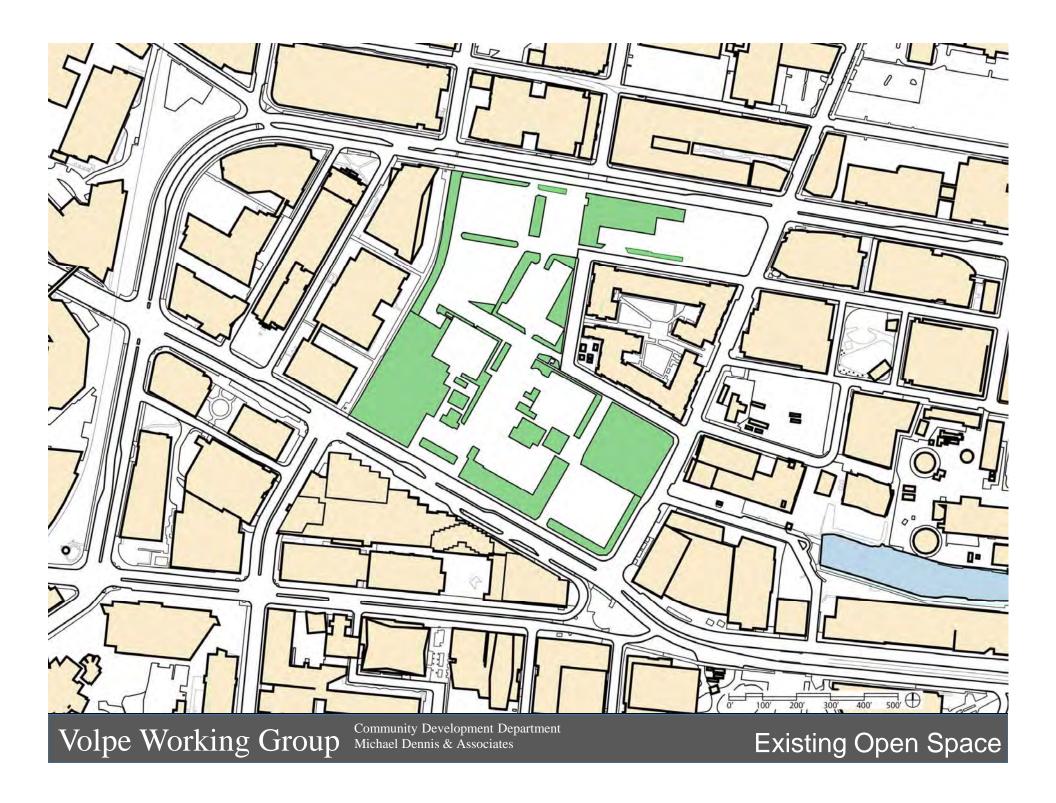


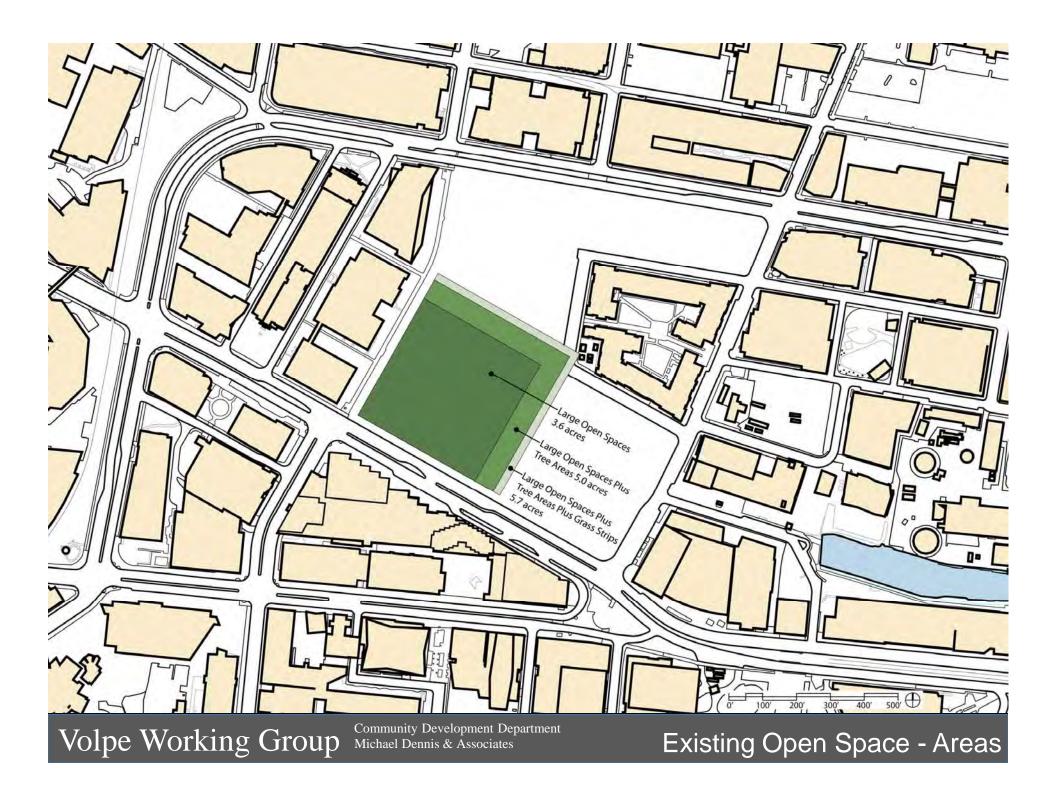


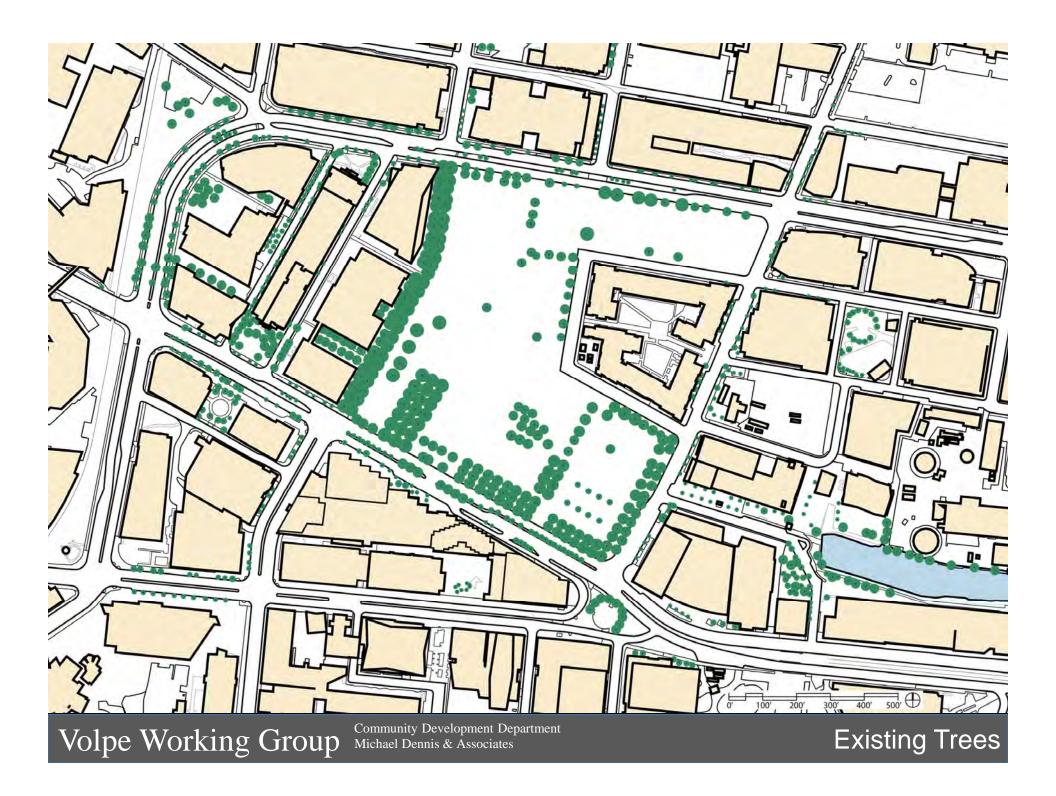


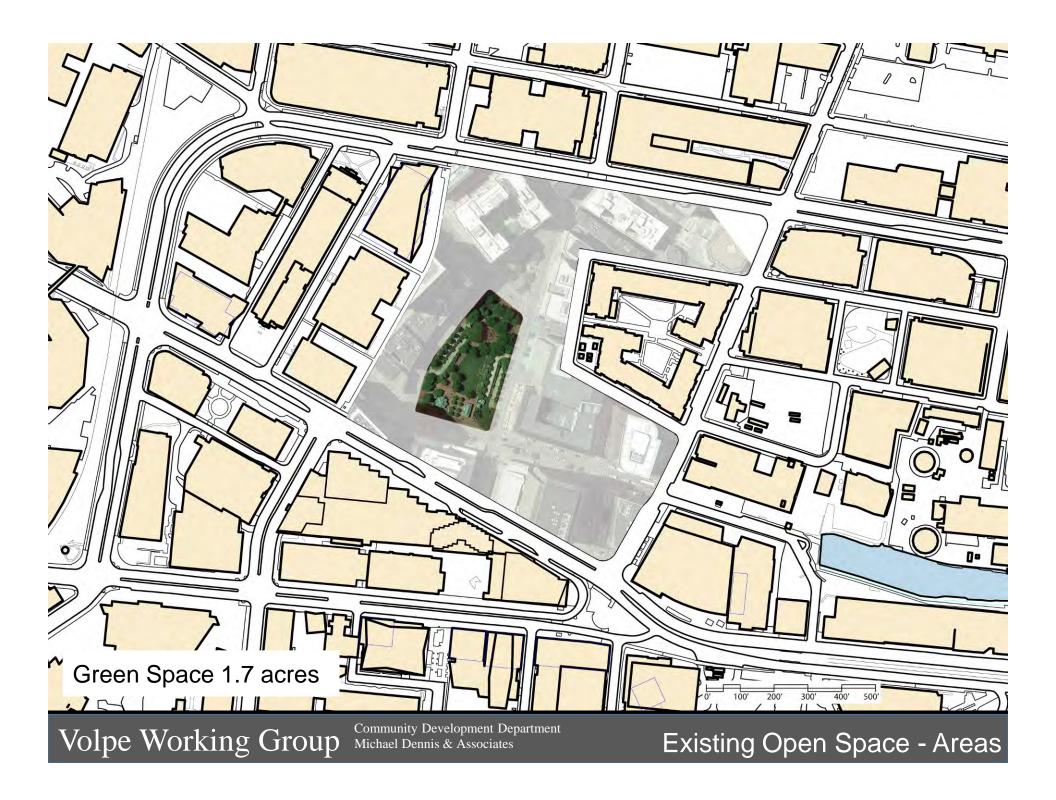


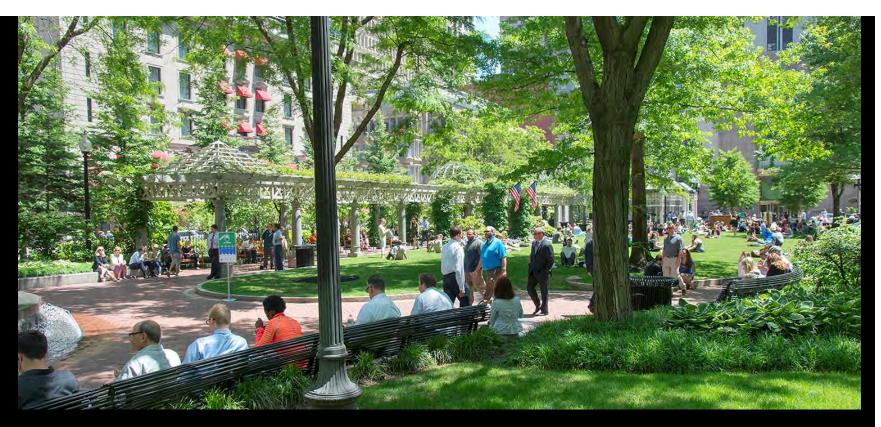


















Volpe Working Group

Community Development Department Michael Dennis & Associates

Comparable Open Space Post Office Square, Boston

