

January 8, 2003

Alan Burne  
Project Director, Main Library Expansion  
449 Broadway  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Re: MC-2289 (449 Broadway, Cambridge Public Library)

Dear Alan:

I am writing to convey the decision of the Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission, made on Monday, January 6, 2003 with regard to your application for approval of the proposed site plan and massing model for Scheme 4A of the proposed expansion of Cambridge Public Library.

The Commission agreed, with your consent, to continue the public hearing for case MC-2289 to allow for further design development before issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness and you thereby agreed to waive your right to a determination on your application within 45 days.

The Commission also voted unanimously (Messrs. Moos, Cohen, Hsiao, Ms. Osler, Ms. Berg) to approve the concept presented for Scheme 4A with the conditions that:

- 1) the Commission review and approve the connection between the existing and proposed library buildings and that the connection maintain the integrity and visibility of the southeast elevation of the existing library generally and of the curved bay on the southeast elevation specifically;
- 2) the Commission review and approve the design, massing, details and materials of the proposed expansion project;
- 3) the Commission review and approve a report on the feasibility of using additional space below grade and/or below the tennis courts to reduce the above-grade mass of the building; and
- 4) the Commission review and approve a traffic study that evaluates the adequacy and safety of the proposed provisions for parking, ramps and drop-off zones with the understanding that the applicant has proposed construction of a minimum of 300 parking spaces (including 100 in the existing high school garage) as part of Scheme 4A and will give consideration to providing additional parking spaces to meet future parking demand.

It is my understanding that you may wish to return to the Commission on a periodic basis with additional informational presentations over the next few months and that the application for case MC-2289 is continued until such time as additional plans and specifications as defined in the conditions above have been developed and can be reviewed at an advertised continuation of the public hearing.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's reviews.

Sincerely,

Sally Zimmerman  
Preservation Planner,  
Secretary, MCNCDC

cc: Richard Rossi, Deputy City Manager  
John Moos, Chair, MCNCDC