

January 1, 2020

Dear Tobin/Vassal Lane Park Planning Committee,

We write on behalf of the children of Cambridge. Access to open green spaces is critical to children's development. Research shows children who spend more time outside in natural environments are physically healthier, emotionally sounder and better able to learn.

From an adult perspective, one could imagine saying, "No problem with less green space around the Tobin, let's just drive over to...". Please remember not everyone can jump in a car and go. Moreover, if we wish to offer children the chance to direct their own play, having access to *local* green space is critical.

We strongly urge you to preserve all of Tobin Recreational Park.

Sincerely,

Ben Mardell, Vineyard Street
Principal Investigator
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Project Zero
Harvard University

Liz Merrill, Vineyard Street
First grade teacher, retired