



City of Cambridge

O-13.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 24, 2001

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Robert F. Rowland, in the early 1960's, in consultation with Cambridge representatives, including CRA Board members, City Manager, City Council and key Cambridge community figures, recognized the development potential of the Kendall Square area then occupied by outmoded, declining, unattractive industrial uses; and

WHEREAS: In 1965, Mr. Rowland, after being hired by the CRA, prepared a redevelopment plan for the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Area - in 1976 renamed Cambridge Center - which would provide land for (1) An Electronic Research Center to be developed by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) and (2) Private development which would benefit the City of Cambridge by generating tax revenues; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Rowland's knowledge of complex urban renewal financing formulas took advantage of a cooperative agreement between Cambridge and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology which resulted in securing an initial federal government allocation of \$15 million to prepare and execute an urban renewal plan, including property acquisitions, business relocations, site clearance, and construction of public improvements; and limiting Cambridge's financial outlay to a small fraction of its \$6 million share of the project costs; and

WHEREAS: After NASA developed 14 of the 29 acres designated for its use and in 1969 decided to transfer its facilities to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Mr. Rowland and Cambridge representatives negotiated the transfer of 15 acres of vacant land from DOT to the CRA so the land could be developed for uses which would directly benefit the City of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Rowland and the CRA Board showed patience and foresight in resisting pressures to pursue the kind of development on which construction could start quickly, but which would not do justice to the City in the long run; and

WHEREAS: After City Council amended the urban renewal plan to permit private mixed-use development, Mr. Rowland and Cambridge representatives assisted the late Representative Tip O'Neill to secure an additional \$15 million from the federal government to finance the project; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Rowland recommended the selection of Boston Properties as developer of Cambridge Center, requiring that construction of a major building commence within seven months, as backed by a substantial deposit as security for the developer's performance, the developer meeting the deadline and completing construction of additional buildings thereafter; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Rowland directed CRA operations which (1) helped to improve and stabilize the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood by working with property owners to rehabilitate their properties, providing construction advise, arranging for financing, and enlisting support from Just-A-Start; by carrying out spot clearance of blighted properties; and by providing cleared land for construction of housing and public improvements; and (2) increased the supply of housing in the Walden Square Area by providing land for construction of housing and public improvements; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council expresses its appreciation for the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of Mr. Robert F. Rowland, Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA) Director from 1964 to 1982, who - in consultation with Cambridge representatives, including CRA Board members, City Manager, City Council, and key Cambridge community figures - conceptualized the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Project, secured funds from the federal government to cover the great majority of the costs to carry out the Project, set high standards for the redevelopment of Cambridge Center, and established a framework for redevelopment which produced a successful Cambridge Center project which, in turn, promoted and encouraged development in the surrounding area to the benefit of the City of Cambridge by generating substantial tax revenues and producing job opportunities. Under his leadership, CRA operations helped to stabilize the Wellington Harrington neighborhood and increased the supply of housing in the Walden Square area; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a suitable site be dedicated to Robert F. Rowland, after consultation with the family and the Redevelopment Authority by the Assistant to the City Council, and that a dedication ceremony be held and an appropriate sign be prepared by the Department of Public Works.

In City Council September 24, 2001.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;



ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk

ms.

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**RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING APPRECIATION
FOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF
ROBERT F. ROWLAND**

WHEREAS, Robert F. Rowland, in the early 1960's, in consultation with Cambridge representatives, including CRA Board members, City Manager, City Council and key Cambridge community figures, recognized the development potential of the Kendall Square area then occupied by outmoded, declining, unattractive industrial uses; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, Mr. Rowland, after being hired by the CRA, prepared a redevelopment plan for the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Area - in 1976 renamed Cambridge Center - which would provide land for (1) a Electronic Research Center to be developed by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) and (2) private development which would benefit the City of Cambridge by generating tax revenues, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rowland's knowledge of complex urban renewal financing formulas took advantage of a cooperative agreement between Cambridge and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology which resulted in securing an initial federal government allocation of \$15 million to prepare and execute an urban renewal plan, including property acquisitions, business relocations, site clearance, and construction of public improvements; and limiting Cambridge's financial outlay to a small fraction of its \$6 million share of the project costs; and

WHEREAS, after NASA developed 14 of the 29 acres designated for its use and in 1969 decided to transfer its facilities to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Mr. Rowland and Cambridge representatives negotiated the transfer of 15 acres of vacant land from DOT to the CRA so the land could be developed for uses which would directly benefit the City of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rowland and the CRA Board showed patience and foresight in resisting pressures to pursue the kind of development on which construction could start quickly, but which would not do justice to the City in the long run; and

WHEREAS, after City Council amended the urban renewal plan to permit private mixed-use development, Mr. Rowland and Cambridge representatives assisted the late Representative Tip O'Neill to secure an additional \$15 million from the federal government to finance the project; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rowland recommended the selection of Boston Properties as developer of Cambridge Center, requiring that construction of a major building commence within seven months, as backed by a substantial deposit as security for the developer's performance, the developer meeting the deadline and completing construction of additional buildings thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rowland directed CRA operations which (1) helped to improve and stabilize the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood by working with property owners to rehabilitate their properties, providing construction advice, arranging for financing, and enlisting support from

Just-A-Start; by carrying out spot clearance of blighted properties; and by providing cleared land for construction of housing and public improvements; and (2) increased the supply of housing in the Walden Square Area by providing land for construction of housing and public improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Cambridge City Council expresses its appreciation for the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of Mr. Robert F. Rowland, Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA) Director from 1964 to 1982, who - in consultation with Cambridge representatives, including CRA Board members, City Manager, City Council, and key Cambridge community figures - conceptualized the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Project, secured funds from the federal government to cover the great majority of the costs to carry out the Project, set high standards for the redevelopment of Cambridge Center, and established a framework for redevelopment which produced a successful Cambridge Center project which, in turn, promoted and encouraged development in the surrounding area to the benefit of the City of Cambridge by generating substantial tax revenues and producing job opportunities. Under his leadership, CRA operations helped to stabilize the Wellington Harrington neighborhood and increased the supply of housing in the Walden Square area; *if he it further*

Resolved: That a suitable site be dedicated to Robert F. Rowland, after consultation with the family and the Redevelopment Authority by the Assistant to the CC and that a dedication ceremony be held and an appropriation sign be prepared by the P.W.D.

BELLOTTI & BARRETTO, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW
DAVENPORT BUILDING
25 THORNDIKE STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02141

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE: 9/20/01 TIME: 12 10

Attention: Ann O
Company: City Light
Telephone # 349-4254
Fax # 349-4269
Subject: ordr
Sender: Michael
Sender Telephone No.: (617) 225-2100
Sender Fax No.: (617) 494-0043

Attached
is a rough draft
of a resolution.
Please include an appropriate
site to be dedicated after
completion of the family
and Community Development
Act.

Thank!
Michael

You should receive 3 pages, including this cover sheet,
If you do not receive all pages, please call the number above.

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BY TELEPHONE SO THAT WE CAN ARRANGE FOR THE RETRIEVAL OF THIS TRANSMISSION AT NO COST TO YOU.

WHEREAS: Mr. Rowland directed CRA operations which (1) helped to improve and stabilize the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood by working with property owners to rehabilitate their properties, providing construction advise, arranging for financing, and enlisting support from Just-A-Start; by carrying out spot clearance of blighted properties; and by providing cleared land for construction of housing and public improvements; and (2) increased the supply of housing in the Walden Square Area by providing land for construction of housing and public improvements; now therefore be it

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COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

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Order #13

Dedicate a suitable location in
honor of Robert F. Rowland.

Councillor Sullivan

In City Council September 24, 2001

ORDER ADOPTED