

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

57 INMAN STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 876-6800

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Wilson H. Rains

J. E. Robinson

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Mr. Paul E. Healy, City Clerk

Re: North Cambridge Skating Rink Location

We would like to give you opinions of the Conservation Commission as to the North Cambridge Skating Rink proposal now under consideration by the Council.

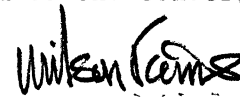
The Commission strongly recommends that no specific location be assigned for the rink until the master planning now under way for the area is complete. Thus we oppose any vote as to either the St. Peter's Field location or the New Street area at this time.

By way of assuring the local citizens and interested groups that a rink will indeed be provided, we recommend a vote guaranteeing to the MDC that space for its rink and appurtenant parking will be allotted within the overall planning area.

We believe that, at this time, the Council might appropriately agree to provide the 2.2 acres previously requested by the MDC solely for the rink. However, we believe that the MDC's goal of providing further recreational opportunities at its sites may well prove to be in harmony with Cambridge's own needs and desires in this area. Therefore, it is likely that further facilities can be worked out between the City and the MDC during the planning process for the area; these would of course be subject to a further vote of agreement in Council.

As to the relative virtue of the two sites, St. Peter's Field and New Street, the Commission at this point favors the latter for reasons of regional access, minimum disruption to the neighborhoods and the probability that the New Street location will offer the most potential for further MDC facilities consistent with the City's needs.

The Commission believes that a specific location for the facility in accord with an agreed master plan can be determined by this Spring. Since we do not think that a Fall, 1973 date is realistic for occupancy of the Rink at either location, we therefore believe that the short delay occasioned by waiting for the master plan will not unduly compromise the construction schedule for 1974 occupancy.


Wilson Rains

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268

#17 12-4-72

Communication from Wilson Rains-relative
to the North Cambridge Skating Rink
location.

In City Council

~~November 27, 1972~~

December 4, 1972

12/4/72

Placed on File -