

Thursday, Oct 30, 1997

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Dear Members of the Cambridge City Council,

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CAMBRIDGE MA.

As Holmes Realty prepares to present their new round of plans for their proposal for Central Square, it is important that the City Administration and the Council do whatever is possible to guarantee maximum community participation in the planning process.

The "Central Sq. Advisory Committee" has scheduled a "meeting" on this new proposal for Wednesday, November 12 at 5:30 pm at the Senior Center. It is important that this "meeting" include ample opportunity for concerned members of our community to comment on this revised proposal, and that our views be included in the deliberation of this review body.

We expect this "meeting" to be characterized as ~~explicitly~~ including a public hearing as part of the proceeding. Anything less would be an abrogation of responsibility, and a direct attack on democratic procedures.

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Sincerely, James Williamson 17 Perry St. 62139



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SUSAN B. SCHLESINGER
Assistant City Manager for
Community Development

ELIZABETH EPSTEIN
Deputy Director for
Community Development

CORRECTED DATE

CORRECTED DATE

Central Square Advisory Committee

Meeting ← ?

**Cambridge Senior Center
806 Massachusetts Avenue
Wednesday, November 12, 1997
5:30p.m.**

The Central Square Advisory Committee will be holding a meeting on Wednesday, November 12th this meeting is an opportunity for the advisory committee to review the project and amend its recommendation as appropriate, and for the public to view the new plans in anticipation of the Planning Board public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 1997. ← ?

Note: Please do not enter the building before 5:15 PM.

CORRECTED DATE CORRECTED DATE

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11.304 Detailed Provisions.

11.304.1 ~~Central Square Advisory Committee~~. There shall be established a Central Square Advisory Committee, with members appointed by the City Manager, which shall have the following duties, responsibilities, and membership.

- a. Purpose. It is the intent of this Subsection 11.304.1 that the Committee in its official actions fulfil the following purpose.
 - (1) To establish a formal, ongoing body that will review all major development actions in the Central Square Overlay District
 - (2) To provide a forum within which a wide range of perspectives on development actions can be heard.
 - (3) To establish a citizen/professional body which can advise both public agencies and private interests as to the development and urban design issues raised by a development or planning proposal and suggest avenues of research which might be pursued to resolve identified conflicts or make the project better fulfill both public and private objectives for the Central Square Overlay District.
- b. Responsibilities. The Committee shall undertake all Large Project Reviews and shall receive all applications for variances and special permits for activities within the Central Square Overlay District for review and comment. In addition, the Committee may comment on any preliminary proposal, for which any public agency or private interest may wish to receive advice and recommendations.
- c. Procedures.
 - (1) Within the six (6) months preceding any application for (1) a building permit for any project subject to a Large Project Development Consultation Review or (2) a special permit or variance for any project within the Central Square Overlay District, the graphic and other material required in Section 11.45 - Large Project Submittal Requirements shall be submitted to the Central Square Advisory Committee for their review and comment.
 - (2) Within thirty (30) days of that submittal, (or within up to sixty (60) days with the written consent of the applicant) the Committee shall prepare a written report of findings and recommendations with respect to the applicant's proposed project.
 - (3) The Committee's written report shall outline the urban design and development issues raised by the proposal. It shall suggest those areas within which additional exploration of alternatives might be sought or factual information gathered which might help to resolve potential conflicts between public and private objectives or which might help to shape the project to better serve these objectives.
 - (4) The report shall be forwarded to the applicant and shall be included in any application for a building permit, special permit or variance.

Consent Communication #8

S-694

Communication was received from James Williamson, transmitting information regarding the Holmes Realty proposal for Central Square.

In City Council Novmeber 3, 1997

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