



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BETH RUBENSTEIN

*Assistant City Manager for
Community Development*

MALAINA BOWKER

*Deputy Director for
Community Development*

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager
From: ^{BR} Beth Rubenstein, Assistant City Manager for Community Development
Date: April 18, 2001
Subject: Council Order #5 dated 4/9/01: Report on an update on the progress of the Riverside Study Committee

In response to the above-referenced order we report the following.

The Riverside Study is underway, following a process similar to the one used in the Eastern Cambridge Planning Study. In each instance, following a widely advertised solicitation for letters of interest, the City Manager appointed a study committee made up of neighborhood residents, business and property owners, and city staff. Attached is a list of the Riverside Study Committee membership.

Like the Eastern Cambridge Planning Study, the Riverside study is being undertaken in the context of an 18-month moratorium, which effectively halts significant development during that period of time. The study, originally proposed by the Loose Petition, must be completed several months prior to the moratorium's expiration, so that the Committee's recommendations can be available for review by the Planning Board in time for the Board's zoning recommendations to be sent to the City Council and advertised before the expiration of the moratorium. The Riverside moratorium was adopted on October 16, 2000 and will expire on April 16, 2002.

In the interest of meeting these deadlines, the Community Development Department, in both the Eastern Cambridge and Riverside cases, wrote and advertised a detailed Request for Proposals for consultant services to assist the Committee and the Department in the formulation of plans for the respective areas. The intent was to have the consultant team ready to meet with the Committee soon after the Committee process began. In the case of Riverside, interviews with the applicant teams have taken place, and the proposals are being reviewed by the City's designer selection committee to determine which team will be awarded the contract. As in Eastern Cambridge, two citizen members of the Committee participated in the interviews.

While the RFP establishes a general scope of services, the Committee will have a significant role in establishing the goals for the neighborhood and the nature of the planning work to be done. The recommendations of the Riverside Committee will be firmly based on the work of the Committee, wider neighborhood outreach, and the professional skills the consultants bring to bear.

Response to Council Order #5 dated 4/1/90
April 18, 2001

The first meeting of the Riverside Study Committee will be on Wednesday, April 25, 5:30 p.m. at the King School library. All study committee members have been notified, the meeting was publicized in the Boston Globe on April 8, 2001, and notice is posted on the City website. This will be an opportunity for Committee members to become acquainted with each other and for a general discussion of the intent of the study and the anticipated schedule for the study process. At the next meeting, the consultant team will begin to work with the Committee. The overall goal is to have recommendations finalized by the end of 2001 so that zoning recommendations may be drafted and considered by the Planning Board and forwarded to the City Council prior to the expiration of the Loose Moratorium on April 16, 2002.

Riverside Study Committee

Riverside

- Carol Bankard
- Phyllis Baumann
- Cob Carlson
- Bridget Dinsmore
- Sandra Graham
- Joan Qualls Harris
- Jennifer Hrabchak
- Joyce Singer
- Alexandra Tyszka
- Stefanie Van Pelt
- Dano Weisbord
- Jessie Wenning
- Alec Wysoker

Business Representatives

- Lawrence Adkins
- Albert R. Lamb III

Institutional

- Janet Kendrick Cambridge Community Center, 5 Callendar Street
- Travis McCreedy Harvard University

CDD

- Stuart Dash
- Roger Boothe
- Elaine Thorne



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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

April 23, 2001

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 01-175, regarding a report on the progress of the Riverside Study Committee, received from Assistant City Manager for Community Development Beth Rubenstein.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy".

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment



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Consent Agenda #4

Awaiting Report Item Number
01-175, regarding a report on the
progress of the Riverside Study
Committee.

In City Council April 23, 2001

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