

**Main Library Expansion Project**  
Cambridge, MA

Project Chronology

prepared for City Councilor Brian Murphy - Facilities Sub Committee 16 October 2002

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The process begins in 1993 and 1994:

**08.1994** Aaron Cohen hired for Programming w/ report submitted/approved @ 87,866gsf required

**10.1995** Rawn / Beha design team selected for state construction grant application

**01.1996** Public design workshops and community forum

**03.1996** Presentation to MCNCDC

**05.1996** Library 21 appointed; holds roughly 28 public meetings concluding in November of 1997 that 90-100,000 gross square feet (gsf) of new library space are needed.

**02.1998** Sasaki Associates hired for site selection process

**05.2000** City Council narrows site to Prospect St. and Broadway

**12.2000** City Council selects Broadway site for expansion of Main Library

**01.2001** City Council appropriated funding for the project

**04.2002** Rawn / Beha contracted to undertake Expansion Project

**05.2002** Owner's representative / project director hired

**06.2002** City Manager appointed new 18-member, citywide Design Advisory Committee (DAC)

**06.2002** First DAC meeting held on **27 June**

**07.2002** Subsequent DAC meeting on **23 July** identified project Goals and Objectives

**07.2002** Architectural Program re-confirmed and approved at roughly 95,000 gsf

**09.2002** DAC meetings **12 and 19 September** presented and discussed four massing schemes for the placement of the expansion at different locations on the site. Public comment was invited at each DAC meeting. **A public meeting is scheduled for 16 October**, and the **next DAC meeting** is planned for the following week on the **22nd**.

# Main Library Expansion Project

Cambridge, MA

... (August 2002)

<u>Scope or Stage</u>	<u>Date of Start</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>End Date</u>
<i>Phase 1</i>			
Program Reconciliation	13 May	7 weeks	1 July (A)
3-Design Alternatives	1 July	11 weeks	12 September 2002
City Review and Approve	12 September	4 weeks	<b>16 October</b>
<b>Conceptual Design Complete</b>	16 October	4 weeks	<b>18 November 2002</b>
<i>Phase 2</i>			
<b>Schematics (2A)</b>	18 November	12 weeks	<b>18 February 2003</b>
City Review and Approve	3 February*	(3) weeks*	3 March*
<b>Design Development (2B)</b>	3 March	23 weeks	<b>15 August 2003</b>
City Review and Approve	21 July*	(6) weeks*	2 September*
<b>Construction Documents (2C)</b>	2 September 2003	26 weeks	<b>27 February 2004</b>
City Review and Approve	2 February 2004*	(7) weeks*	1 March 2004*
<b>Public Bidding Process (2D)</b>	<b>10 March 2004</b>		
<b>Award</b>	<b>mid- May 2004</b>		
<b>Start Construction (2E)</b>	<b>mid-June 2004</b>	24 months	June 2006
<b>Substantial Completion</b>	June 2006	3 months	<b>September 2006</b>
<b>Occupy New Library</b>	<b>September to December 2006</b>		

(A) actual / completed

\* overlapping review timeframe

# **Main Library Renovation/Expansion**

Cambridge, MA

## **Design Advisory Committee Membership**

(9/23/2002)

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Janet Axelrod

John W. Gintell

Eric Bird

Arlyne A. Jackson

Roger Boothe

Emily Norris

Carla Bosco

James Roosevelt, Jr.

Ruth Butler

Hugh Russell

Ted Carpenter

Victoria Solomon

Alex Duval

Carole Sousa

Fred Fantini

Charlie Sullivan

Elizabeth A. Gibb



# City of Cambridge

795 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02139

Ph. 617-349-4300 617-349-4242 TTY

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

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*For Immediate Release: October 2, 2002*

Contact: Ini Tomeu, Public Information Officer, 617-349-4339

## **Upcoming Meetings for Main Library Expansion Project**

### **Main Library Expansion Project**

#### **Public Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 16, 6:00 pm**

**Cambridge City Hall, Sullivan Chamber**

During the first half hour of this meeting, the current status of the project will be presented. The public will then be invited to comment and discuss.

For more information, contact Alan Burne at 617-349-4438 or, [aburne@ci.cambridge](mailto:aburne@ci.cambridge) or the Library Expansion Project Web Page at <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~CPL/>.

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### **Main Library Expansion Project**

#### **Design Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, October 22, 2002, 6:00 pm**

**Citywide Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge**

Designers will present the alternative chosen to be the basis for the design, or the "conceptual approach" for the Library's expansion project. This meeting is open to the public. A comment period for those attending will be reserved for the latter half of the meeting.

For more information, contact Alan Burne at 617-349-4438 or, [aburne@ci.cambridge](mailto:aburne@ci.cambridge) or the Library Expansion Project Web Page at <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~CPL/>.

**Notice of Up-coming Meetings  
for the Main Library Expansion Project**

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. the **Design Advisory Committee** will meet on

**Thursday, 19 September 2002, at 6:00 pm**

**and**

**Tuesday, 22 October 2002 at 6:00 pm**

**at the Citywide Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge**

On the 19th, the architects will continue their discussion of the comparative advantages and disadvantages of the massing schemes presented thus far. On October 22nd, the designers will present the alternative chosen to be the basis for the design, or the "conceptual approach" for the Library's expansion project. Both meetings will be open to the public. A comment period for those attending will be reserved for the latter half of both meetings.

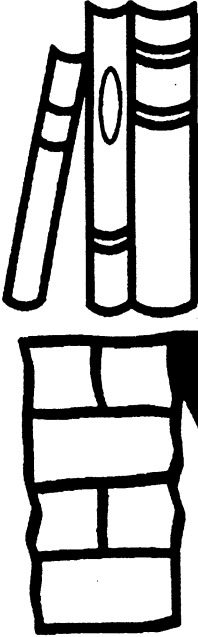
. an **Open Public Meeting** will be held on

**Wednesday, 16 October 2002, at 6:00 pm**

**at City Hall, in the Council Chambers**

During the first half hour of this meeting, the current status of the project will be presented. The public will then be invited to comment and discuss.

*Please visit our Web page at <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~CPL/>  
Questions...contact Alan Burne 617.349.4438; or, [aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us](mailto:aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us)*



# Books & Mortar

## Notice of Upcoming Meetings for the Main Library Expansion Project

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### The Design Advisory Committee

will meet on

Thursday, 19 September 2002, at 6:00 pm

and

Tuesday, 22 October 2002 at 6:00 pm

at the

Citywide Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge

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### An Open Public Meeting

will be held on

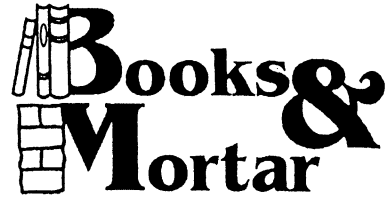
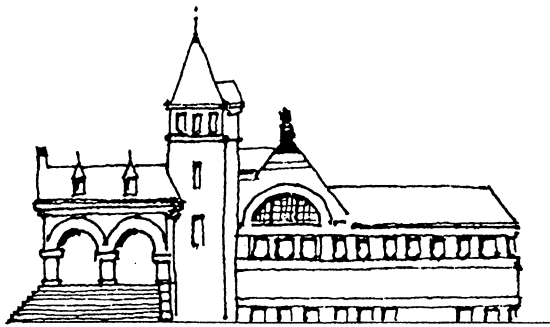
Wednesday, 16 October 2002, at 6:00 pm

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During the first half hour of this meeting, the current status of the project will be presented. The public will then be invited to comment and discuss.

Please visit our Web page at <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~CPL/>  
Questions . . . contact Alan Burne 617.349.4438; TTY: 617-349-4421  
or [aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us](mailto:aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us)





## MAIN LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT

Cambridge, MA

Date: 3 October 2002

Memo From: Alan R. Burne,   
Project Director for the City of Cambridge

### To our Library Patrons, Staff, and Neighbors

**RE: Testing activity around the Library, High School, and in the Park**  
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From next Tuesday morning, October 8, 2002 through Thursday afternoon, October 10, 2002, there will be two drilling rigs and a front-end loader taking soil samples from various locations around the Library, CRLS, and the Park.

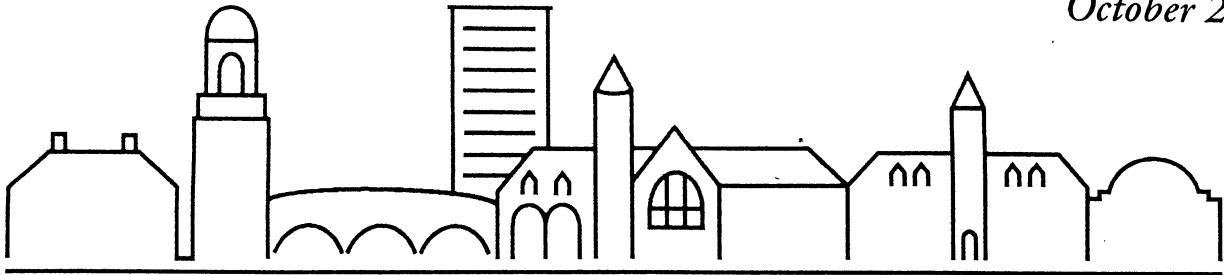
The drilling rig, which is fitted with a 20' boom, will bore a 4" to 6" hole down to around 30' to 40' deep to determine what soil conditions and characteristics exist at various locations throughout the sites selected by our consulting engineers and other project staff.

There will be "observation wells" placed at three of the boring locations in order to be able to observe the "activity" of our water table. A metal plate will cover each of these holes after the drilling is finished and the well monitors are in place.

There will be noise associated with the boring process, but we will not start the drilling prior to 8:00am and will be done around 5:30pm each day.

If anyone has any question or comment, please feel free to call me at 617.349.4438 or through my email address [aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us](mailto:aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us)

I apologize for any inconvenience that these operations may create. We will attempt to minimize them wherever we can.



# On and Off Broadway

*A newsletter of the Friends of the* CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## *MAIN LIBRARY BUILDING UPDATE*

Following a City Council decision to expand and restore the Main Library Building on Broadway, the City selected William Rawn Associates and Ann Beha Architects as the designers for the project. Alan Burne was appointed by the City Manager to be the Project Director. The Manager advertised for volunteers and selected an 18 member citizen's Design Advisory Committee (DAC) to work with the architects to ensure the very best new library for our city.

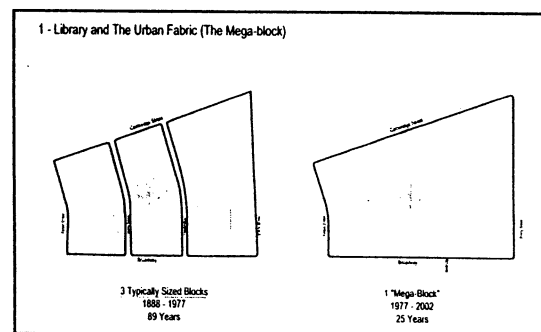
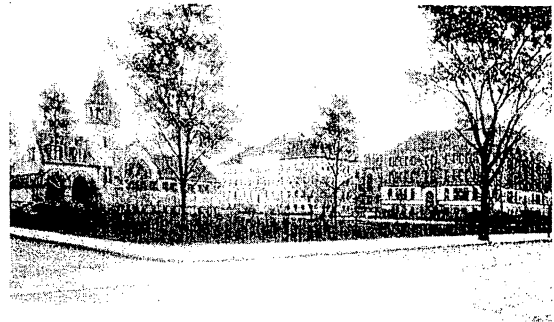
The DAC met twice during the summer to develop design objectives for the library building, the site, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (CRLS), and parking. Some of their objectives are:

- A place of pride for the City: a place of surprise, a "wow" building with public art inside and out
- A library that serves Cambridge citizens
- A creative balance between old and new
- A harmonious relationship between the library building and the park
- Strengthen the relationship between the school and the library
- Minimize the impact of ramps (for underground parking) on pedestrian traffic within the park

Two studies commissioned by the library and the final report of the community-based Library 21 Committee recommended a completed library of approximately 90,000 - 100,000 square feet. The current main library building is 42,000 square feet.

Throughout the process, the architects have been guided by the history of the library building, the development of the site, the inter-relationship

between the library and the various Cambridge secondary schools that have shared the site, the critical importance of open space to the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood and the service/programmatic needs of the new library.



As you can see from the illustrations above, the library/high school site was, and still is, bordered by Felton, Cambridge, Ellery streets, and Broadway.



[Departments >](#)

Race Equality Week bibliography

Boudreau

Branch

245  
Concord  
Ave.  
02138  
(617) 349-  
4017

Collins

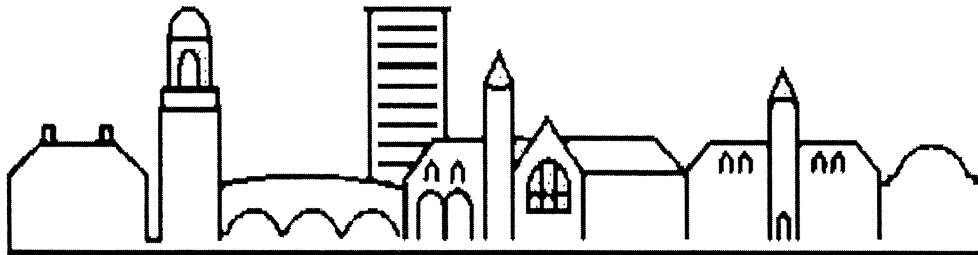
Branch

64  
Aberdeen  
Ave.  
02138  
(617) 349-  
4021

O'Neill

Branch

70 Rindge  
Ave  
02140  
(617) 349-  
4023



**CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

449 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 349-4040

Fax # (617) 349-4028

TTY#(617) 349-4421

<http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~CPL/>

Central  
Square Branch

45 Pearl St.  
02139  
(617) 349-4010

O'Connell  
Branch

48 Sixth St.  
02141  
(617) 349-4019

Valente  
Branch

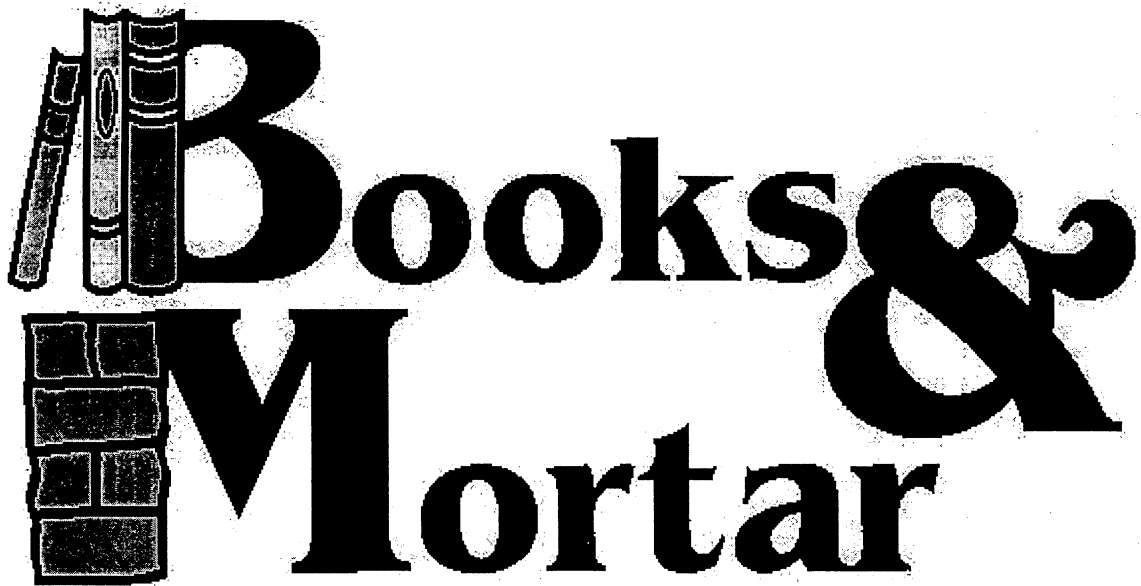
826 Cambridge  
St.  
02141  
(617) 349-4015

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Minuteman Catalog and Library Account (Renew Your Books!)

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--Last updated 10/7/02

The logo for 'Books & Mortar' features the word 'Books' in a large, bold, serif font. To the left of the 'B' are three books standing upright. Below 'Books' is the word 'Mortar' in a similar bold, serif font. To the left of the 'M' is a brick wall. An ampersand (&) is positioned between 'Books' and 'Mortar'.

# Books & Mortar

*Main Library Expansion Project*

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# Books & Mortar Design Advisory Committee

[News](#) | [Overview](#) | [Design Process](#) | [Design Advisory Committee](#) | [Library 21](#) | [History of Project](#)

For any questions or comments, please contact Alan Burne at (617) 349-4438, TTY: 617-349-4421, or [aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us](mailto:aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us)

(9/26/2002)

Design Advisory Committee Meeting notes:

- [June 27, 2002 meeting](#)
- [July 23, 2002 meeting](#)
- [September 12, 2002 meeting](#)
- [September 19, 2002 meeting](#)

[Images from the meetings](#)

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## Design Process of the Main Library Expansion Project

[News](#) | [Overview](#) | [Design Process](#) | [Design Advisory Committee](#) | [Library 21](#) | [History of Project](#)

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(10/3/02)

Construction note:

- [MS Word version](#)
- [HTML version](#)

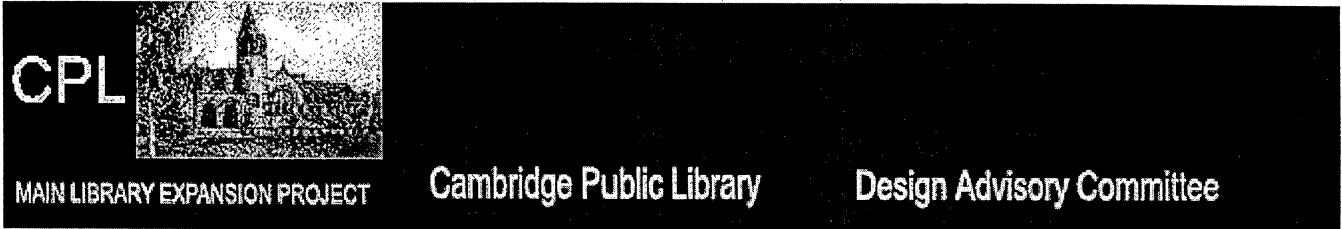
(9/11/02)

We have added four documents relating to the new library:

- [Revised Building Program \(PDF version\)](#)
- [Space Needs Summary \(PDF version\)](#)
- [Seating Distribution Summary \(PDF version\)](#)
- [Collection Distribution Summary \(PDF version\)](#)

(8/28/02)

The Library expansion project is moving forward. Its architectural program - the study that determines the space requirements of the project - has been completed and approved. The designers are using those spatial quantities to proceed with their next steps in the process, which is the development of several (ultimately three) massing alternatives to show the different possible build-outs on the Library site. Those alternates will be presented to the City Manager's appointed Design Advisory Committee on September 12th at 6:00 P.M. at a public meeting to be held in the Sakey Lecture Hall, Main Library. Using input from the Committee, various City agencies, and the public, a selection will be made as to the singular direction in which the design effort will continue. That will be the "Conceptual Design Approach". Next a cost estimate will be made, and after adjustments, the design team will start the "schematic" phase of the "phase II" design process. Hopefully this will occur by the latter part of November. Concurrent with the activity described above, the design team has also been busy with the development of an "Existing Conditions Survey". It documents such things as each tree and shrub on the project site, all of the artifacts that have been placed in various locations around us, and even the conditions of the roof tiles, and structural framing of the building itself as seen by crawling through the attic spaces and the turret. Also you might have seen a young woman and her associate flying around the outside of the building and zooming up and down a lift in the adult stacks and Sakey Hall. They were inspecting the condition of the building's exterior and taking paint samples from the interior walls and ceilings, so that we will be able to restore some of the areas to the design intent of the original architects . . . . . Stay Tuned.



## Main Library Expansion Project - Design Process

### The Design Advisory Committee

An 18-member Design Advisory Committee for the Cambridge Public Library Expansion project was appointed in June of 2002 by the City Manager Robert W. Healy to function as a representative of Cambridge residents and City staff. Over the next 18-to-24 months, they will provide comment to the Architectural Team of William Rawn Associates and Anne Beha Associates regarding the both building and landscape important to the Library expansion design. All meetings are open to the public and a comment period for those attending is provided at the end of the meetings.

Following is a list of past or future meetings which have been scheduled to date. Key materials from past meetings can be accessed by clicking on that meeting date. Materials for future meetings are posted within two weeks of the meeting date.

### DAC Meeting No. 1 - June 27, 2002

Meeting No. 1 - Notes (There were no images presented during the initial meeting.)

### DAC Meeting No. 2 - July 23, 2002

Meeting No. 2 - Images

Meeting No. 2 - Notes

### DAC Meeting No. 3 - September 12, 2002

Meeting No. 3 - Images

Meeting No. 3 - Notes

DAC Meeting No. 3A - September 19, 2002 - Public Comment Meeting (Continuation of Meeti

Meeting No. 3A - Images

Meeting No. 3A - Notes

Public Information Meeting - October 16, 2002, 6:00 PM

City Council Chamber, Cambridge City Hall

DAC Meeting No. 4 - October 22, 2002, 6:00 PM

Cambridge Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Ave.

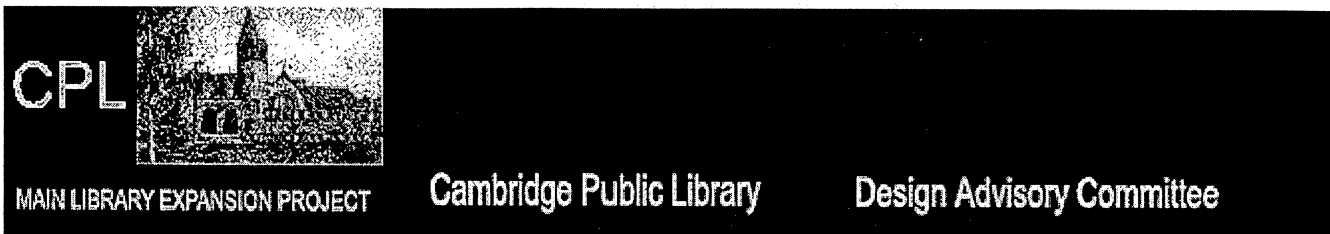
Meeting No. 4 - Images

Meeting No. 4 - Notes

Conceptual Options

CPL Books & Mortar Website  
Cambridge Public Library Website  
E-Mail: [aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us](mailto:aburne@ci.cambridge.ma.us)

(c) 2002

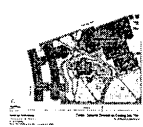


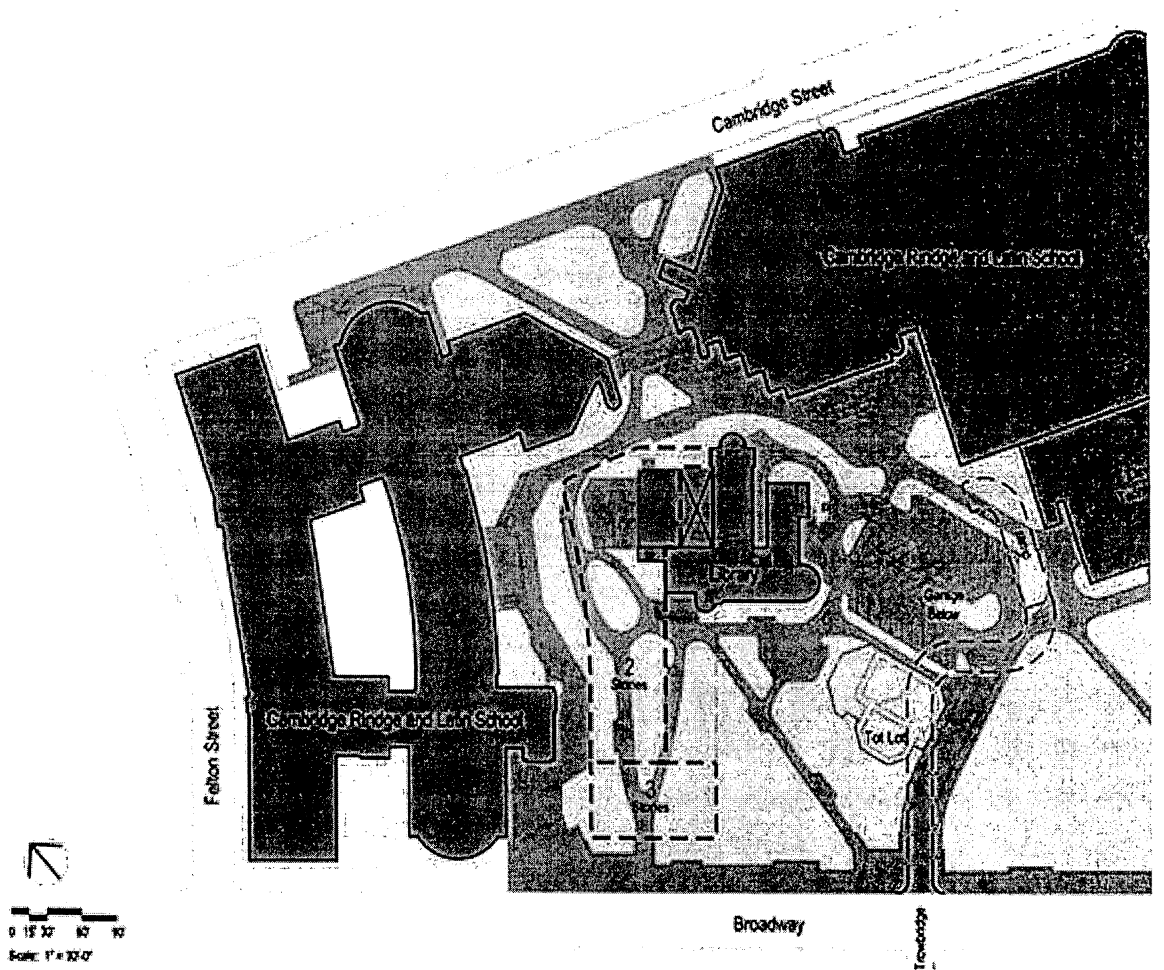
Main Library Expansion Project - Design Process

Conceptual Options



COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMITTEE	
MEETING #1234	
MEETING OFFICE	
MEMBER #1	MEMBER #2
MEMBER #3	MEMBER #4
MEMBER #5	MEMBER #6
MEMBER #7	MEMBER #8
MEMBER #9	MEMBER #10
MEMBER #11	MEMBER #12
MEMBER #13	MEMBER #14
MEMBER #15	MEMBER #16
MEMBER #17	MEMBER #18
MEMBER #19	MEMBER #20
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MEMBER #23	MEMBER #24
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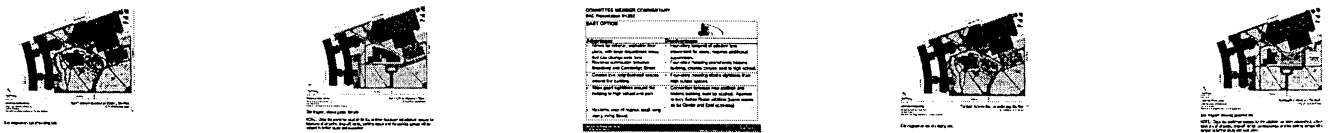




**Cambridge Public Library**  
 William Razwn Associates, Architects, Inc.  
 Ann Beha Architects  
 Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Inc., Landscape Architects

**"West" Scheme Overlaid on Existing**  
 09.19.02 Con

Site diagram on top of existing site.



DAC Meeting No. 1 - June 27, 2002

Meeting No. 1 - Notes (There were no images presented during the initial meeting.)

DAC Meeting No. 2 - July 23, 2002

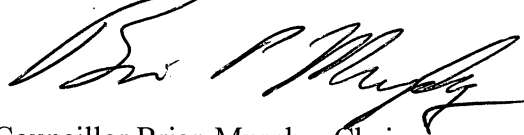
Meeting No. 2 - Images

Meeting No. 2 - Notes

Councillor Murphy thanked those present for their participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Murphy', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair

shuttle bus route and bike racks were included in the design, Mr. Rossi stated that they were. Ms. Flannery also noted the need for parking for baby carriages. On the issue of whether the renovated library building would be an energy-efficient “green” building, Mr. Rossi stated that it would meet the highest “green” standard achievable within cost constraints, given the challenges of retrofitting an old building. As a general matter, Mr. Rossi pointed out that there were many more stops on the way to a final design, and that specific concerns would be addressed in the process.

Mayor Sullivan noted that there will be a joint School Committee/City Council presentation on the status of the library project on October 22, 2002.

Mr. Rossi then addressed construction issues. He noted that Mr. Burne has experience in several huge state building projects, and that the city also has experience in building projects in residential neighborhoods where local concerns have to be accommodated. The greatest disruption will occur in the early stages of construction; ideally, the construction will coincide with the end of the school year. Mr. Burne stated that there will be demolition. In response to questions from Vice-Mayor Davis, Mr. Rossi said that the architects will be coordinating with Harvard University in the Cambridge Street part of the project, as required by their contract with the city, and that Lorenz Park may have to be used for staging, given the space constraints, although it is too soon to tell now.

Mr. Perry from the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association offered a suggestion for the project’s web site. He noted that the current web site lists each of the proposed schemes with a list of pros and cons from the DAC. He feels it would be useful if other people could also comment on the schemes on the web, which would allow them to offer input and information that could improve the design. Mr. Burne said that every letter or e-mail that is received is forwarded to the architectural team, but he doesn’t know if they appear in the matrix for the DAC. Mr. Rossi commented that the members of the DAC were selected to represent the community’s interests and that this is the procedure for comment; all other public comments are brought to the attention of the architects.

Ms. Carmean of the Cambridge Tree Project asked why the plan did not keep the existing curving angle of the driveway to the library entrance, which would save three big trees and keep the tot lot in its current location. Mr. Burne responded that the landscapers took into account the site’s original plan, its history, and the discussion about a continuation of Trowbridge Street straight to the library, and factored these into the general scheme. However, this is not the final design phase; the schemes are just ways to understand what makes sense as ways of putting volumes in space. Mr. Rossi pointed out that, in fact, none of the schemes would remove trees. According to Ms. Flannery, another consideration in changing the driveway was to create a clear vista to the library entrance; by changing the layout of Trowbridge Street, the street will end with the library as the destination. Currently, there is a lack of visibility and presence for the library from the street, with the library obscured by buildings and greenery. It is important to the library staff and trustees to celebrate the library as an important presence on the site.

Vice-Mayor Davis asked how the team plans to keep the council involved and informed. Mr. Rossi responded that there is a design book that will be updated periodically and distributed to the Council, containing information on meetings and topics in the process. He suggested that perhaps the committee should ask the Council what kind of information, and in what form, would be useful to update councillors. In addition, Mr. Burne is available day to day for any questions. There is also a page on the city website for the library department that provides all information to date on the project. Vice-Mayor Davis expressed concern that there is too much paper and too little time for the Council to digest everything; at the same time, the design team needs to get Council input as soon as possible, since the school issue is critical. Mr. Rossi summarized the efforts at outreach so far: meetings with school staff and the city to address site, building and safety concerns, the DAC meetings with the architectural team, and public meetings to inform the community. One possibility to get more input from the school would be to appoint a second school committee member to the DAC.

Ms. Flannery is currently setting up a Teen Advisory Committee for the library and is in contact with the high school librarian; she will ask the School Committee to form a committee of kids to get ideas about the library design.

Mr. Rossi plans to talk to Mr. Bates about the plans for the tennis courts. According to Vice-Mayor Davis, Human Services runs the tennis program; the overlay of users at this location requires coordination. Regarding the green space issue, Vice-Mayor Davis commented that not all green spaces are the same or can function as parks. Depending on the division of space, the public would use the site in different ways. She defers to the architects on how to design spaces that people can use, and asked Mr. Gray to address this issue.

Mr. Gray stated that the team has a skilled landscape architect to design the space. Currently, there are several different uses including an area that functions like a “private room”, and a wooded area near the high school. The design team wants to preserve open and private areas by locating parking under the park, if possible, similar to the design of Post Office Square in Boston. The architects do not want to create a lawn that is subservient to the buildings. The team is trying to improve on the park and fix problems, while preserving what works. Mr. Rossi indicated that the city is not trying to change Lorenz Park.

Vice-Mayor Davis then asked about several design features at the site. She inquired if there will be a problem with planting in shallow ground because the MBTA Red Line runs underneath. Mr. Rossi responded that the city has solved other difficult situations like this, for example, in Danehy Park, by adding fill to a surface. Vice-Mayor Davis also remarked that mechanicals such as the headhouse, vents and ramps, must be designed to address neighborhood concerns. Mr. Rossi indicated that abutters’ concerns would be taken into account in the design. While placement of mechanicals is a tough construction problem, Mr. Rossi asserted that the city has the right team to think through it and solve it; Mr. Burne has been working to include these in the building, rather than on roofs or in shrubbery. In response to Vice-Mayor Davis’s question about whether the

be. Ms. Davis also asked about the relocation of the tot lot; her opinion was that it was important to keep the tot lot close to the children's room. Mr. Burne responded that the architects were not at that part of the design yet; they were looking at where volumes would go on the site. This is the conceptual part of the design, with schematics, including placement of the tot lot, to be addressed in a later phase. Mr. Rossi also noted that there was disagreement in the DAC about where the tot lot should go. From a programmatic standpoint for the library, Ms. Flannery expressed her concern that it would be difficult to have direct access to the tot lot from the library if people can leave the library with books. According to Mr. Rossi, the tot lot location will be discussed in upcoming meetings.

Vice-Mayor Davis also inquired about how the design would relate the library to the high school, and specifically, if there had been outreach to the school in the design process. Mr. Rossi responded that there were ongoing discussions with Mr. Maloney, John Silva, the principal, and Caroline Hunter. Vice-Mayor Davis is particularly concerned that the architects observe how students actually use the space. Mr. Burne indicated that he observes the students at the site from his office and also consults with library staff on this issue. Ms. Davis emphasized that from a parent's point of view, it was important to observe how students use the site, especially at busy times like 2:30 P.M., in determining how to place buildings and paths. Mr. Rossi noted, however, that the design was not open-ended; the information from students and other users of the site, while valuable, might lead to a design that was otherwise unacceptable, for example, for reasons of cost. According to Mr. Rossi, there are not a lot of options for the design. Vice-Mayor Davis emphasized that her concern was that the decision process include all the stakeholders and that they receive and are able to contribute to basic information before a decision is made. She asked Mr. Burne to make sure the architectural team interviews students before deciding on a design. Mr. Rossi assured her that this is being done in the library design process.

Councillor Murphy commented that the one attractive aspect of the "Far East" design was that it breaks down the walls between the school and the library, and asked what the thinking was behind that. According to Mr. Gray, historically there was no wall between the school and the library. It was built to protect the library. What the architects have in mind for the new design is a form of public common. Vice-Mayor Davis asked what the team plans to do about the views of the backs of buildings. Mr. Gray stated that this issue requires a lot of attention, in order to avoid dead-end corridors and to allow people to move through the site. Mr. Rossi has asked the design team to look at spaces used by the public in Greater Boston to create an attractive public space at the library. As an example of a space that needs improvement, Vice-Mayor Davis pointed to the field house, where graduation exercises are held now; it has two ways of access through an unattractive passage. The DAC has also raised issues of access in the redesign.

Councillor Murphy asked if there was any public comment. There was no response.

Mr. Burne reviewed the chronology for the project (**Attachment A**). Throughout the process, Mr. Burne has worked with the DAC to identify their goals and objectives for the project. Once these were identified, the architects created four schemes to locate the new library on the site. Among other considerations, the design team in particular believed that the old design for the site was important, and tried to factor it into their designs. Historically, the site had more buildings on it.

Using posterboards, Mr. Burne then described four conceptual schemes for placing buildings in the space around the library; these are “massing” diagrams, which configure the buildings and open space in different ways. The first scheme, the “West” Scheme, connected the library to Rindge and Latin School in a way that created a “canyon” between them, a design that was criticized by the DAC. For this reason, the West Scheme dropped to a lower priority. A second, “straddling” scheme would link library buildings with light wells. This would preserve the historic characteristics of the buildings but raised questions about operations. A similar design in other libraries, such as the Malden Library, results in closed areas of the expanded library because there is not enough staff to supervise the new and old wings. The third, “East” Scheme, required building up to four stories in order to achieve the goal of 95,000 square feet of space for the library. The DAC’s opinion is that this would overshadow the current library and is too high a scale for the space. A fourth, “Far East” Scheme, received the most favorable comment from the DAC. In this scheme, there would be a two-story building close to the library, with two-and three-story buildings nearby. Construction would extend into the tennis courts, which would be rebuilt, along with parking, at a lower level. The DAC and the architects agreed that this model had the greatest benefit to the library program. At the same time, there was lots of negative comment from neighbors, who felt that the plan would take too much of the current park space. Responding to the concerns of abutters, Mr. Rossi noted that, according to the landscape architects, the neighbors, especially on Ellery Street, would gain a lot from the design in Scheme Four, which would make major improvements in the Ellery Street landscape. Mr. Burne is reviewing all of the schemes and after the upcoming DAC committee, will present two additional schemes, including a possible combination of Schemes Three and Four.

Mr. Rossi reviewed the projected schedule for the project. He expects that by the end of November or December 2002, the team will settle on a conceptual approach for the design process, with schematics developed and approved by March 2003. The city is scheduled to review and approve design development by September 2003 and to review and approve construction documents by March of 2004. The schedule provides for the bid award to occur by mid-May 2004. Construction is scheduled to begin in June of 2004, with completion in September of 2006 and occupation in September-December 2006. Mr. Burne indicated that depending on the comments received from the public regarding the various diagrams, something may change in the design and this could add a couple of weeks to the schedule. Mr. Rossi noted that each scheme, as well as any subsequent modifications, has to go before the DAC.

Vice-Mayor Davis raised a number of questions about the proposed designs. She asked about side views and Mr. Burne offered a photo interpretation of what these would

# City of Cambridge

**PUBLIC FACILITIES, ART AND  
CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair  
Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio  
Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves*

In City Council December 9, 2002

The Public Facilities, Art and Celebrations Committee held a public meeting on October 16, 2002, beginning at 4:40 P.M. in the Sullivan Chamber in order to receive an update on the library construction project.

Present at the hearing were Councillor Brian Murphy, Chair of the Committee, Mayor Michael A. Sullivan, Vice-Mayor Henrietta Davis, and Elaine McGrath, City Clerk's Office. Also present were Richard Rossi, Deputy City Manager, Susan Flannery, Director of the Cambridge Library, Bertha A. Chandler, Cambridge Public Library, Lisa Peterson, Commissioner, Department of Public Works, and Charles Sullivan, Executive Director, Historical Commission. Also in attendance were Alan Burne, Library Project Director, Philip Gray of William Rawn Associates, Nicole Groleau and Pamela Hawkes of Ann Beha Associates, Doane Perry, Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association, and Karen Carmean, Cambridge Tree Project.

Councillor Murphy convened the hearing and asked for an update on the status of the library project.

Mr. Rossi explained that the city has provided a lot of information in different formats on the library construction project, including information on the city's web site, public meetings, weekly design meetings between the city and the architects, and the appointment of an 18-member Design Advisory Committee (DAC) to give feedback on the project. Mr. Rossi stated that the city had chosen the design team through a designer selection process, and negotiated a contract that included provisions for public information and input throughout the process. He introduced Alan Burne, who directs the library project, and asked him to provide an overview.

Mr. Burne stated that he has worked on a number of public projects, including Cambridge Hospital, and is familiar with the requirements of public construction projects including the need to inform the public and get their input. Mr. Burne explained that this meeting was not to introduce new material, but to review the process so far. He stated that there have been various outreach efforts, including a website for information; information about the process has also gone to 300 abutters. In addition, Ms. Flannery noted that information about meetings has been sent to 100 community agencies and organizations.

S-364

**Committee Report #1**

Committee Report from Councillor  
Brian Murphy, Chair of the Public  
Facilities, Arts and Celebrations  
Committee, for a meeting held on  
October 16, 2002 to receive an  
update on the library construction  
project.

**In City Council December 9, 2002**

**REPORT ACCEPTED.  
PLACED ON FILE.**