

City of Cambridge

In the Year One Thousand, Nine Hundred Ninety Nine

AN ORDINANCE

In amendment to the "Zoning Ordinances of the City of Cambridge"

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Cambridge as follows:

To amend the zoning map of the City of Cambridge in the area bounded by Blackstone Street, Western Avenue, Putnam Avenue and River Street, from the existing Office 3 designation to a Residence C-1 designation. The FloorArea Ratio would decrease from the 3.0 to .75, the height limit would decrease from 120 feet to 35 feet, and the allowed uses would be restricted to single, two, townhouse and multifamily residences, and limited institutional uses.

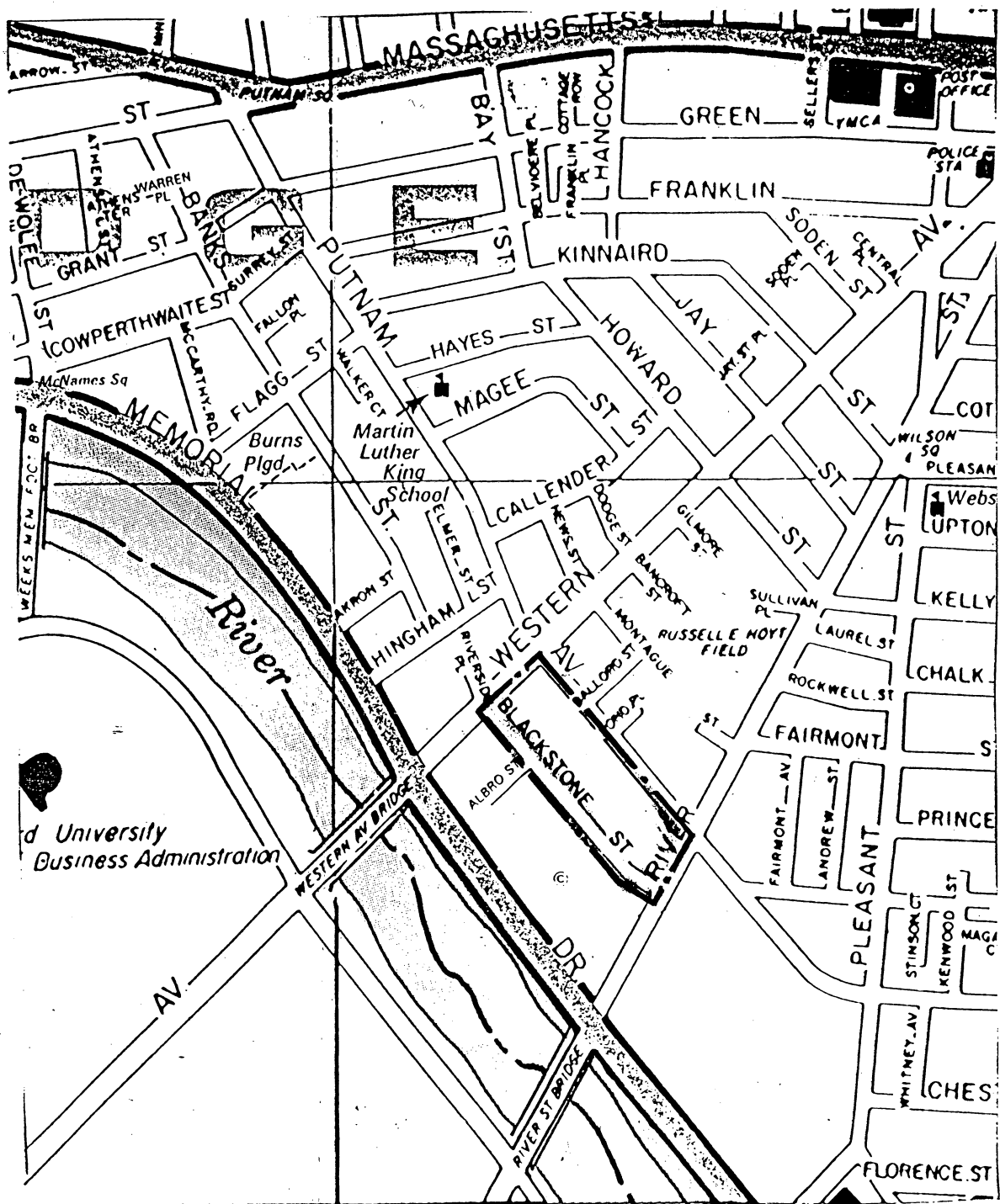
Passed to a second reading at the
City Council meeting on January 11, 1999
and on or after February 1, 1999 the
question comes on passing to be ordained.

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

October 8, 1998

Map accompanying down zoning petition for the area bordered by Putnam Avenue, Blackstone Street, Western Avenue and River Street.



John Osten, 95 Jackson Street, employee of Roper & Ellis, spoke in opposition to the petition.

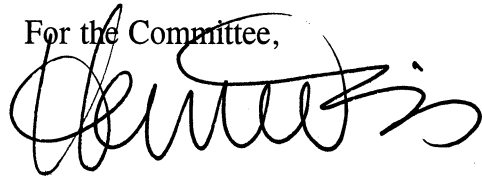
Councillor Born noted that it appears that the houses in the south side of Putnam Avenue are zoned O-3. Mr. Barber stated that the dividing line is the centerline of Putnam Avenue. Councillor Born noted the possibility of an historic conservation district.

Councillor Davis agreed that the "Victorian way" along Putnam Avenue between Western Avenue and River Street is a very important historical part of the City which deserves preservation.

Councillor Russell moved referral of the petition to the full City Council. The motion passed on a voice vote without objection.

Councillor Davis thanked all those present for their participation. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henrietta Davis", written over the text "For the Committee,".

Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair

City of Cambridge

The Ordinance Committee held a public hearing on December 1, 1998, beginning at 6:50 p.m. in the Sullivan Chamber for the purpose of discussing a proposed amendment to the zoning in the areas bordered by Putnam Avenue, Blackstone Street, Western Avenue and River Street from Office-3 to Residence-C.

Present at the hearing were Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair of the Committee, Vice Mayor Anthony D. Galluccio, Councillor Kathleen L. Born, Councillor Sheila T. Russell, Councillor Michael A. Sullivan, and City Clerk D. Margaret Drury.

Councillor Davis convened the hearing and explained the purpose. She invited the petitioners to make a presentation.

Peter Jelley, 259 Putnam Avenue, read the letter attached to the petition. He stated that he appreciates that this is not a simple matter and that the Citizens Growth Management Advisory Committee is taking this matter under consideration. There is a certain urgency because an offer to purchase the property has recently been accepted by the property owner.

Victoria Kent, 211 Putnam Avenue, spoke in support of the petition and urged the City to look at the Biorad building for use as housing.

George Potter, 209 Putnam Avenue, spoke in support of the proposal. He favors a C-1 residential district. The trend of the area is residential.

Irene Hartford, 207 Putnam Avenue, spoke in support of the petition. Biorad has been a good neighbor but she does not want to see a high-rise built at that location.

John Zinsky, 234 Putnam Avenue, spoke in support of the petition and stated concerns about development.

Nita Sembrowich, 203 Putnam Avenue, spoke in support of the petition.

Patricia Hills, 208 Putnam Avenue, spoke in support of the petition and urged protection of the historical character of the Riverside-Cambridgeport neighborhood. She urged conversion of the Biorad site to housing

Councillor Henrietta Davis then invited testimony in opposition to the petition.

Ed Palma, 523 Davy Glen, Belmont, California, stated that he is an employee of Biorad, and spoke in opposition to the petition. There is no signed agreement to sell the property.

Committee Report #5

S-39

A report from Councillor Davis,
Chair of the Ordinance Committee,
for a hearing held on December 1, 1998
for the purpose of discussing a
proposed amendment to the zoning
in the areas bordered by Putnam Avenue,
Blackston Street, Western Avenue and
River Street from Office-3 to Residence-C.

In City Council January 11, 1999

*Report Accepted
Passed to a 2nd Reading.*