



City of Cambridge

O-16.

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 25, 2002

VICE-MAYOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record approving the new street names of Broad Canal Way, Athenaeum Street (extension of existing Athenaeum Street), Kendall Street, West Kendall Street and East Kendall Street.

In City Council March 25, 2002.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D. Margaret Drury". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "D" and "M".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



18.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

February 11, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-05, regarding the possibility of the Historical Commission being included in the process of naming streets in the City, please be advised of the following:

Executive Director of the Historical Commission Charles Sullivan agrees that it would be appropriate for the staff of the Historical Commission to be involved in the process of naming and renaming streets in the City. The names of City streets often have historical associations, and the Commission could readily advise on these matters. Therefore, the Commission will be available to assist the City Engineer and Emergency Communications Director when a request is made for street name changes before the recommendation is forwarded to the City Council.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

Consent Agenda #18

Awaiting Report Item
Number 02-05, regarding
the possibility of the
Historical Commission being
included in the process of
naming streets in the City.

In City Council February 11, 2002

Referred to
Communications
and Reports from
City Officers #1,



Cambridge Historical Commission

831 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Telephone: 617 349 4683 Fax: 617 349 3116 TTY: 617 349 6112

E-mail: histcomm@ci.cambridge.ma.us URL: <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~Historic>



William B. King, *Chair*, Allison M. Crump, *Vice Chair*, Charles M. Sullivan, *Executive Director*
M. Wyllis Bibbins, Suzanne R. Green, Helen F. Moulton, Frank Shirley, Jo M. Solet, *Members*
Jacob D. Albert, Bruce A. Irving, Jennifer Jones, *Alternates*

January 23, 2002

To: Robert Healy, City Manager
From: Charles Sullivan *CS*
Subject: Council Order #12, dated 1/14/02 Re: historical issues regarding Lyme Property's application for street names

Lyme Properties has applied for City Council approval of several new street names for private ways within the Cambridge Research Park project. Lyme's current proposals for naming their private ways have been discussed with, amended, and approved by the City Engineer and the Director of Emergency Communications. Their discussions and changes focused on insuring that street names were not duplicates of existing street names, that addressing schemes were standardized, and that public safety responders would not be confused.

Lyme intends to extend the existing Athenaeum Street to Third Street with no change of name. A pedestrian path along the south edge of the project would be called Broad Canal Way. The main street through the project would be called Kendall Street, and two additional streets would be called East Kendall Street and West Kendall Street.

Kendall Square, which is nearby, is the intersection of Main Street and Broadway. It was named about 1890 after Edward Kendall (1821-1915), a state representative, Cambridge alderman, and owner of the Charles River Iron Works (Kendall & Roberts) on Main Street. The official designation by the city was reinforced in 1912 when the Boston Elevated Railway opened the Kendall Square Station. One Kendall Square, an office development about one-half mile away, was formerly the factory of the Boston Woven Hose & Rubber Co.; it was given its current name in 1985.

The site of Lyme's development was originally the plant of the Cambridge Gas Light Company, which settled on the Broad Canal in 1873 because coal, which was heated to produce gas, could be easily unloaded from coastal schooners and barges.

Lyme's proposals for naming their private ways have been approved by the City Engineer and the Director of Emergency Communications. However, there is still concern that the designation "Kendall" has been overused and will lead to further

confusion, and also that "Kendall," as the historic name of a public place, should not be appropriated for private streets.

I suggest that Kendall Street could be named Wharf Street, and East and West Kendall streets could be named East and West Athenaeum Square. There are other possibilities, but names like these would address the concerns that have been expressed. They are also descriptive of the area and not easily confused with other locations.

cc: Owen O'Riordan, City Engineer
George Fosque, Emergency Communications



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

February 11, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Council Order No. 12, dated 1/14/02, which requested a review of historical issues concerning Lyme Properties application for street names, received from Executive Director of the Historical Commission Charles Sullivan.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #1

Transmitting communication from
Robert W. Healy, City Manager,
relative to Council Order #12,
dated January 14, 2002, regarding a
review of historical issues
concerning Lyme Properties
application for street names.

In City Council February 11, 2002

**REFERRED TO
COMMUNICATIONS AND
REPORTS FROM CITY
OFFICERS #1.**

Athenaeum Square? The logic of this recommendation is not consistent. It should also be noted that there are several private ways in East Cambridge that bear the same name as public streets.

Our proposal to name the private ways is totally consistent with the planning recommendations for Kendall Square. It reflects the objective of integrating our site with important transportation initiatives such as the Kendall Square T stop and the location of new traffic signs to encourage automobile traffic to access East Cambridge via the Longfellow Bridge, Memorial Drive and Edwin Land Boulevard rather than Cambridge, Third and other neighborhood streets. Moreover, it reflects the urban design objectives that have remained consistent over the past three years of public input into the development of this site.

I trust the majority of the City Council will recognize the logic of the proposed street names and accept the designations that have been carefully reviewed and approved by staff in the departments responsible for these matters.



LYME PROPERTIES LLC

16 On the Common, PO Box 266, Lyme, New Hampshire 03768

Tel 603 795 2129 Fax 603 795 4789

To: Robert Healy, City Manager (617-349-4307)
cc: Margaret Drury, City Clerk (617-349-4269)
Michael A. Sullivan, Mayor (617-349-4287)

From: David Clem

Subject: Council Order #12, dated 1/14/02

Date: February 11, 2002

Pages (Including Cover): 2

F A C S I M I L E T R A N S M I T T A L

I have reviewed a copy of a January 23, 2002 memo from Charles Sullivan regarding our proposal to name the private ways and offer the following defense of our decision.

Mr. Sullivan is correct that this proposal has been reviewed, amended, and approved by the City Engineer and the Director of Emergency Communications. It is also true that our Master Plan reflects the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Task Force for Kendall Square and fulfills the commitment Lyme made to the Cambridge Planning Board to design our project as an extension of Kendall Square. Unlike other developments in the City, Lyme decided to identify buildings with street addresses rather than a project name, a result that has been consistently supported by staff in the Community Development Department as part of the design review process. Lyme chose Kendall Street because it reinforces the Kendall Square location rather than creating a new name, like Wharf Street, which will only confuse the public.

Mr. Sullivan is correct in a historical sense that Kendall Square is the intersection of Main Street and Broadway. However, this precise location no longer exists. Main Street and Broadway street addresses reflect the current confusion - One Main Street, 101 Main Street, and One Broadway are all on the same side of the same street! Ask any occupant of these buildings how easy it is to direct visitors to their offices; adding another street name to the mix, especially one that is entirely new and without a current context, will only exacerbate a problem.

It is ironic that Mr. Sullivan cites One Kendall Square as an example of the overuse of "Kendall". In fact this name was chosen by the developers and approved by the City Council as a way to maintain the historical reference to Kendall Square. At the time, the City had changed the name of Kendall Square to Cambridge Center, including the designation of the T stop to MIT/Cambridge Center. I doubt anyone today would argue that Cambridge Center and the Red Line T station are not part of Kendall Square. Indeed, this exercise points to the reality that the general public will not accept new names that have no practical context.

I am further confused by Mr. Sullivan's assertion that the "historic name of a public place should not be appropriated for private streets". Why then does he accept Athenaeum Street and suggest

Consent Agenda #1

A communication was received from David Clem, regarding the review of historical issues concerning Lyme Properties application for street names.

In City Council February 11, 2002

**REFERRED TO
COMMUNICATIONS AND
REPORTS FROM CITY
OFFICERS #1.**



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

(617) 349-4260

FAX (617) 349-4269

tty/TDD (617) 492-0235

D. MARGARET DRURY
CITY CLERK

DONNA P. LOPEZ
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

TO: The Honorable, the City Council
FROM: D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk *DMD*
Re: Kendall Square LLC Proposal for Street Names
DATE: February 11, 2002

On January 14, 2002 Kendall Square LLC submitted a request for the City Council's approval for proposed street names for its Kendall Square project. A copy of that request is attached to this memorandum.

At that time the City Council referred the request for approval to the Historical Commission and adopted an order requesting through the City Manager that the Historical Commission report on any historical considerations of which the Council should be cognizant in deciding whether to approve the proposed street names.

The first item on the City Manager's agenda is a response from Charles Sullivan to the Council's request. The purpose of the referral having been fulfilled, the request for approval of the street names is again before the Council, and the question comes on approval.

11-26

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**Communications and Reports from
City Officers #1**

A communication was received
from D. Margaret Drury, City
Clerk, regarding the application
from Lyme Properties LLC
requesting approval for the
following new street names:

Broad Canal Way
Athenaeum Street (extension of
existing Athenaeum Street)
Kendall Street
West Kendall Street
East Kendall Street.

Approval has been received from
Public Works and Emergency
Communications Departments.

In City Council February 11, 2002

Tabled on motion
of Vice Mayor Davis.
In City Council March 25, 2002
new street names approved
See Order # 16