

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JOHN H. CORCORAN
City Manager

July 14, 1972

To the Honorable, the City Council,

At our meeting of June 8, 1972 with members of the Redevelopment Authority and the Planning Board, the Redevelopment Authority indicated that it was prepared to forward for your consideration those actions required to be approved by you and the Planning Board to carry out planned development in the Kendall Square project area.

The development which has been proposed by the Authority to implement the Urban Renewal Plan for the project area, would as you know, involve \$150-million in new building construction, provide for 5,750 new jobs with a payroll in excess of \$35-million annually, for an increase in tax revenue in excess of \$3-million annually, and for 1,750 new dwelling units of which more than 300 units could readily be made available to low and moderate income families for home ownership.

At the meeting, you asked that certain remaining issues regarding the development of Kendall Square be resolved. Major issues resolve specifically around the possible use of the so-called surplus NASA land for light industry, for low-density subsidized housing, and for a large community play field, and generally around the way in which these and other possible alternative uses relate to long-term policy guidelines for the development of the city as a whole.

Since that meeting, I have taken steps to ensure that these issues are resolved as quickly as possible.

I have asked the Redevelopment Authority to sum up, to review, and to respond in writing to the issues which have been raised by the Planning Board, the Chamber of Commerce, the East Cambridge Planning Team, the Cambridge Civic Association, and other community and neighborhood groups. I have also asked the Authority to determine the immediate and long-run consequences of any further study or prolonged delay in connection with the development of the Kendall Square Project. Moreover, I have asked the Authority to identify immediately any and all possibilities for industrial development of the surplus NASA land which could meet our objectives of more jobs and more tax revenue, if not more housing.

I have asked the Planning Board to proceed with the completion of both a comprehensive plan for Cambridge, and the community renewal program which was begun in 1967 and which is presently underway at an estimated cost of more than \$1-million.

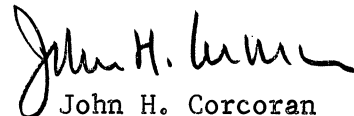
I have asked the Chamber of Commerce to cooperate with both the Redevelopment Authority and the Planning Board in their work, to talk with industrialists and businessmen to determine why local firms have been moving out of Cambridge and why other firms seeking new locations do not find Cambridge as attractive or as competitive as other communities, and to determine ways in which the Chamber could be help-

ful in the actual development of the Kendall Square area.

I have asked the Cambridge Civic Association, and other community and neighborhood groups, where appropriate, to talk with both the Redevelopment Authority and Planning Board about these issues and their respective concerns.

It is my understanding that these various agencies and groups are proceeding as I have requested them to do. The results of their work should be available shortly, and they will be forwarded to you.

Yours truly,


John H. Corcoran
City Manager

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