Central Police Station
motion to refer

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts

In City Council Dec 26th 1916.

	YEA	NAY	NOT VOTING
MR. APTED		1	
MR. BLANCHARD		2	
MR. COADY			1
MR. COUNIHAN		3	
MR. DELEHANTY			2
MR. DURANT		4	
MR. HOGAN	1		
MR. KIDDER		5	
MR. LEHAN		6	
MR. LYNCH		7	
MR. MULLETT	2		
MR. NELLIGAN	3		
MR. SHEA	4		
MR. STRATTON	5		
PRESIDENT DUNPHY		8	
	5	8	2

Blanchard's
amt: "with ~~two~~ a substitutions in ~~Eastd~~ Camb & No. Camb. and a substitution in at or near ~~2~~ locations"

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts

In City Council ...Dec 26th.....1916.

	YEA	NAY	NOT VOTING
MR. APTED		1	
MR. BLANCHARD	1		
MR. COADY			1
MR. COUNIHAN	2		
MR. DELEHANTY			2
MR. DURANT		2	
MR. HOGAN	3		
MR. KIDDER		3	
MR. LEHAN	4		
MR. LYNCH	5		
MR. MULLETT		4	
MR. NELLIGAN	6		
MR. SHEA	7		
MR. STRATTON		5	
PRESIDENT DUNPHY		6	
	7	6	2

90

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Room 28, City Hall

January 18,1916

Hon.Wendell D.Rockwood,Mayor

Cambridge,Mass.

Dear Sir:-

I submit herewith for your consideration the following preliminary report on the suggested consolidation of the various police stations into a Central Police Station.

At present there are four city buildings used as police stations in common with the other uses to which these buildings are put,as shown on the accompanying Appendix No.1. To provide for the elimination of these buildings,two plans suggest themselves,first,the building of an Annex to City Hall,and second,the remodelling of City Hall and the selection of either the Central Square or Brattle Square site for a new Central Police Station.

The proposed Annex is described in detail in the accompanying Appendix No.2 with sketch plans.

The second scheme,I am showing by the accompanying blue prints what may be done with the present City Hall to provide for those administrative departments which are now located elsewhere. The Central Police Station itself,can be developed when it is decided whether the Brattle Square or Central Square location is to be preferred.

If the Annex is to be built,the additional cost to the city would be as follows:-

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Room 28, City Hall

Loss of taxes on lots taken.....	575.00
Cost of maintenance.(Annex and New Brattle Sq.)	3,500.00
Interest and sinking fund charges on Annex at cost of $125,000.....	10,000.00
Interest and sinking fund charges on new fire station for Eng.1 and Ladder 1 at cost of $40,000.....	3,200.00
Rent for North and East Cambridge Branch Libraries at $600.each.....	1,200.00
*	$18,475.00

Against this additional cost may be charged the following savings which may be affected.

Annual cost of Maintenance of present buildings..	10,703.85
Taxes receivable on abandoned city building locations and possible buildings thereon.....	4,048.00
Central Square Branch Library rental.....	720.00
	$15,471.85

If the Central Police Station is located in Brattle Square, the additional cost to the city would be as follows:-

Cost of Maintenance.....	3,000.00
Interest and sinking fund charges on building at a cost of $65,000.....	5,200.00
Interest and sinking fund charges on cost of alterations at City Hall at $10,000.....	800.00
Rent of North and East Cambridge Branch Libraries at $600.each.....	1,200.00
*	$10,200.00

with the following savings affected by this location:-

Annual cost of Maintenance of present buildings..	10,703.85
Taxes receivable on abandoned land.....	2,300.00
	$13,003.85

By locating the Central Police Station at Brattle Square and the abandonment of the Central Square Building, provision would have to be made for taking care of Chemical Engine No.1, which could be done by locating it either in the Inman Sq. Fire House or Engine 6 house, River St.

Respectfully submitted

*See Appendix No.3

Jeremiah F. Dorney

Supt. of Public Buildings

Appendix No.1.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Room 28, City Hall

	Feet of Land	Date of Erection	Valuation of Land	Valuation of Building	Annual Cost of Maintenance	
Brattle Sq.	16,153	1874	24,000.	60,000.	4,067.25	
Central Sq.	13,028	1873	10,500.	50,000.	3,247.65	
Station 3.	4,220	1870	1,200.	20,000.	1,674.60	
Station 4.	6,316	1873	5,000.	5,300.	1,714.35	
			40,700.	135,300.	10,703.85	

Occupied as follows:-

Brattle Square
Police Station 1
Engine 1
Ladder 1
Fire Alarm Office
Sealer of Weights and Measures
Ward Room
Post 56-G.A.R.
Camp 12-L.S.W.V.

Central Square
Police Station 2
Chemical 1
Overseers of Poor
City Physician
Registrars of Voters
Ward Room

Station 3
Police Station 3
Branch Library
Post 57-G.A.R.

Station 4
Police Station 4
Branch Library
Ward Room

Appendix No. 2.

Office of
Newhall & Blevins
Architects
9 Park Street

Boston, Jan.13,1916

Mr.Jeremiah F.Downey,
Superintendent of Public Buildings,
City Hall-Cambridge

Dear Sir:-

We are sending you herewith sketch plans of the Proposed Annex to City Hall. These plans,as you know,are the result of a canvas of the whole situation which we made with the Building Commission in 1912-1913.

In general,the scheme includes the abandonment and sale of the Central Square and Brattle Square buildings,as recommended by us at that time, and the erection of this proposed building to take care of the several departments affected by these changes,and the housing of other departments which are not now properly cared for in the City Hall.

On the Inman Street side we have planned a new Central Police Station, on the street floor with motor patrol and motor ambulance in connection therewith. In the basement are adequate storage facilities and space for pistol range if desired. On the 1st Floor,also,we suggest the housing of the present Chemical Engine,motorized,also a flying squadron which could cover the whole city. Should it be desired to enlarge either the Police Station or the Fire Station,the ambulance and patrol could be housed in connection with the Municipal Garage in the basement.
On the 2d Floor,above the Fire and Police Stations,we have provided Police and Fire Headquarters,the Police Inspectors Department,and Dormitory for ambulance and patrol drivers and firemen.

We plan to construct a bridge from the present City Hall,at the end of the 1st Floor corridor,with a few steps,if necessary,and carry same over the driveway to the 2d Floor of the proposed building. This would connect with the Fire and Police Headquarters,also a Ward Room,adjacent to which are quarters for the Registrars of Voters.
On the 3d Floor of the Inman Street side,we have provided quarters for the Grand Army Posts and Spanish War Veterans.

On the Bigelow Street end will be located the School Committee,Overseers of the Poor,and City Physician on the 1st Floor,with School Committee storeroom and Sealers of Weights & Measures in the basement; these Basement quarters being reached from the driveway level. The Branch Library Department on the 2d Floor is reached by the main staircase without coming in contact with the other departments,while there is a second means of egress for both the Library and Ward Room.

There is about 7-1/2 ft.difference in the grades of the two streets so that the proposed building would be practically two stories high on

Bigelow Street and three stories on Inman Street.

The present driveway is depressed to such an extent that it would be impossible to put in a Municipal Garage at the driveway level. This Garage to be made fireproof andmif desired,shut off entirely from the rest of the building,and in our judgement would effect a great saving, if conducted on a livery basis.

Our plan is not to make this building as elaborate as the present City Hall,but to build a simple utilitarian structure,possibly of light brick to harmonize with the present building.

A separate heating plant would probably not be necessary and it certainly would be much more economical if the heating could be done by the existing plant in the City Hall.

We estimate the cost,above the land,on the basis of 12,000 sq.ft.of area covered,at $175,000. for a building fireproof throughout,and $125,000.for a building of 2d Class construction,with the exception of the Garage which would be fireproof in either case.

Should it not seem desirable to build the whole structure at once,the Bigelow Street wing could be deferred,thereby reducing the cost about one-third.

We have been studying the City's problems for several years without any very definite results,and we feelstrongly that a building of this kind will go far toward the solution of same.

We first made plans when Mr.Tracy was in office,for remodeling the Central Square Building,and in 1910 entered into a contract with the City to proceed with the work. Fortunately for the City,however,nothing was done. As we review the situation now,the expense for such remodeling would not have been a good investment from the City's standpoint. While the new Inman Square Building provides adequately for the fire companies and the Fire Alarm Service,it seems to us that the Fire Headquarters should be in the City Hall.

In a letter of this kind,we cannot go into all the details of the different plans which we have in mind,and while the sketches which we are sending you may seem a bit crude in many respects,you will realize,of course,that they are only preliminary and tentative,and we would be very glad to go into further details with you and His Honor the Mayor to the end that whatever is done will be for the City's best interests.

We view these matters,not only as architects,but as heavy tax payers, and would like to see the situation met in a businesslike manner. These are the days of combination and concentration and there is no reason why the City of Cambridge should not conduct its affairs in the same manner as any modern and up-to-date business corporation.
Awaiting your further commands,we are

Very truly yours
AHB-G (Signed) Newhall & Blevins

Taking the value of the land as an estimate of what the various parcels and the buildings thereon would bring at public auction, there would be a further saving in both of the proposed schemes as outlined as follows:-

Annex to City Hall-Estimated return from sale of lots, $26,700. This sum would be deducted from the cost of building as planned which would lower the interest and sinking fund charges to $7,864., making the total additional cost $16,339.

New Building at Brattle Square-Estimated return from sale of lots. $16,700. Deduct this sum from the cost of building as planned which would lower the interest and sinking fund charges to $3,864. which would make the total additional cost $8,864.

The following statement from "The Cost of Municipal Government in Massachusetts" for 1906 is of interest:-

"Lynn, another industrial city of a somewaht different type from either Worcester or Fall River, and a population nearly 53,000 less than the former and 29,000 less than the latter, policed itself during the year under consideration for a similar amount per capita, $1.28. Brockton, one of the smaller industrial cities with a population of less than 50,000, expended upon its police department $1.26 per capita; Salem, with a population under 38,000, expended $1.28; Taunton, with a population a little over 31,000, expended $1.27. Springfield, still another type of city, expended for policing itself $1.32. If this group can be regarded as representative of the cities of the Commonwealth, may it not be, in view of these figures, a fair proposition to lay down that whenever any of our cities discover that they are expending much more than $1.30 per capita for police purposes there should be a careful examination of the prudence with which the appropriations are voted, the expenditures made, and the efficiency with which the service purchased is rendered? "

The per capita cost for Cambridge for 1906 was $1.67

The latest issue of this same report is for the financial years ending between Nov.30,1913 and April 1,1914 and from information from this source, the following figures are obtained, except the population which is from the census of 1915.

	Population	Total expense Police Dep't.	Per Capita Cost
Worcester	162,697	$278,461.95	$1.71
Fall River	124,791	194,014.54	1.56
Lowell	107,978	165,659.16	1.62
Cambridge	108,822	196,534.21	1.80

City of Cambridge.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 18th, 1916.

ORDERED:-

That a communication from His Honor, the Mayor, under date of January 11th, 1916, recommending the establishment of one central Police Station be taken from the files of the City Clerk and referred to the Committee on Public Safety of the City Council.

Adopted.

Attest

Edward J. Brandon

City Clerk.

1

Referred to Committee on
Public Safety.

Office of the Mayor

Cambridge Massachusetts

January 11th, 19 16.

To the

Honorable the City Council of the

City of Cambridge:-

In connection with proposed reorganization of departments of the City under our new City Charter, I respectfully recommend for your consideration, the advisability of providing for one central police station, to take the place of the present costly system of maintaining four police stations.

Other cities in the Commonwealth, much larger in area, and with about an equal population, find it more convenient and economical to conduct police business from one central station. Also, certain districts in the City of Boston, large in area and population, have, I believe, but one police station.

If it is thought advisable to establish one central police station, it will be readily seen that the cost of maintenance will be greatly reduced. A substantial revenue, probably sufficient to go a long way towards the construction of a new building, will be received from the sale of the old buildings.

City land will be available either at Central Square or at Brattle Square for a new station.

In my opinion, the amount of money that would be saved under this plan on account of maintenance alone would be sufficient to justify an increase in pay of the members of the force, to put them

To the

Honorable the City Council of the

City of Cambridge:-

on a basis with that of the members of the force of our neighboring city of Boston, with which city we are so closely allied in police work.

This is a proposition in the interest of economy, without in the least impairing the efficiency of the Police Department, and I therefore respectfully recommend early consideration of the matter.

Respectfully,

Edmund Rockwood

Mayor.

COMMUNICATION

From the Mayor, recommending the establishment of one Police Station.

In City Council January 11, 1916.

Placed on file.

Edward J. Brandon City Clerk.

VC

Office of the Mayor

Cambridge Massachusetts

February 8th, 1916.

To the

Honorable the City Council of the

City of Cambridge:-

In addition to my former communication of January 11th, 1916, I desire to call your attention to the following as a result of further investigation in relation to the desirability of establishing one central police station for Cambridge

In this connection, I transmit for your information and guidance the enclosed communication with enclosures and plans from the Superintendent of Public Buildings, prepared at my request.

Also I am submitting some figures as to the cost of maintaining the Police Department in Cambridge, compared with the larger cities of the Commonwealth, of which Cambridge is one.

The cost of policing our city this year will be about $211,000.— an increase of $6,293.— over last year, and an increase of $31,000. over the year ending March 31st, 1912, the last year before the department was consolidated under the Public Safety Department.

Compared with other cities usually classified for statistical purposes in the same group,. viz:- Lowell, Fall River and Worcester, Cambridge, with a large population, is very small in area. It is about one-half the size of Lowell, one-seventh the size of Fall River, and one-sixth the size of Worcester..

Cambridge with a population of 108,822 has 179 members of the Police Force: while Lowell, with a population of 107,978, and nearly

To the

Honorable the City Council of the

City of Cambridge:-

twice as large an area, has but 155 members on its police force.

Cambridge has twenty-seven superior officers in the department: Lowell has but sixteen superior officers.

Cambridge has four poliee stations; Lowell has but one. The per capita cost in Cambridge is about $1.92:in Lowell about $1.56: in Fall River about $1.56, and in Worcester about $1.71:

The adjacent City of Somerville,with practically the same conditions as Cambridge,is maintained at a per capita cost of $1.25, as against our $1.92.

Without going into a discussion as to the reason for this increased cost of policing the City,it seems to me that if we wish to handle this situation in an economical and efficient manner,that it can be done best through the construction of a central police station. This is not a new suggestion, but has been considered by previous administrations. It seems however, to be a more feasible plan at this time,since we are facing the necessity of extensive repairs in some of our public buildings, the expense of which must be met,if it is decided that we shall maintain the present four-station plan.

It is a notorious fact that the Central Square building is inadequate, hazardous and unsightly as a public building in a city of the size and importance of Cambridge, and the same condition exists in regard to the Brattle Square Building. Reconstruction or proper repairs on either or both of these buildings would be money largely wasted.

To the
Honorable the City Council of the
City of Cambridge:-

It is estimated that a building entirely adequate and adapted for handling our Police Department can be constructed at Brattle Square for the sum of $65,000.-- in which building also will be provision for the housing of Engine No. 1 and Ladder No. 1. If this plan is adopted we shall be able to deduct from the cost of construction, the amount obtained from the disposal of the three other buildings and the land upon which they are now located.

The general plan would provide that the various offices located in the Central Square Building would probably be moved into the City Hall when changes which are contemplated in the City Hall buildings are completed.

When the property represented by the three buildings in which police stations are now located is conveyed to private parties, the improvements which would undoubtedly follow would cause an increase in valuation, and be a source of substantial revenue to the City.

The present annual maintenance cost of these four buildings is now $10,703.85: One central station ought not to cost any more for maintenance, including janitor service, lighting and heating, also to provide for salaries of the necessary officers at headquarters, than it costs st the present time, for the maintenance of either the Brattle Square or the Central Square building. In other words the number of officers now required for administration work at the several police stations could be reduced one-half or two-thirds, and the maintenance cost above referred to, would be redued in

To the

Honorable the City Council of the

City of Cambridge:-

like proportion.

Considering the financial benefits that would be derived from the sale of the other three buildings and land, and the economies that would be effected in the administration and maintenance of only one station, I feel that a sum equal to the cost of the present maintenance would be saved.

We would also be enabled to utilize a number of the force now occupied in clerical and other work at the various stations for the better policing on the streets of our City. Furthermore, the handling of the force from one central station would tend to improve the discipline of the force.

It should also be borne in mind that a central station located in Brattle Square would be within 2.5 miles of the farthest point in our city, and, if located in Central Square, within 2.9 miles of the farthest point, and, with motorized apparatus every portion of the City could be reached within a few minutes run from the Central Station. I am convinced that the adoption of a central station would be in the interests of the City, and of great saving in expense, and, if adopted, I should be in favor of increasing the pay of the members of the force to a modest extent, thus sharing with them the economies effected by the change.

I respectfully refer this matter to your Honorable Board, and recommend early consideration of the subject.

Respectfully,

William D. Rockwood

Mayor.

4

COMMUNICATION

from the Mayor, transmitting one from Supt. of Buildings relative to establishment of a Central Police Station.

In City Council February 8, 1916

Referred to the Committee on Public ~~Property~~ Safety.

Edward J. Brandon City Clerk.

Cambridge Board of Trade

WALTER C. WARDWELL, PRESIDENT
RUSSELL D. CRANE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

698 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE,
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

September 18, 1916.

His Honor, the Mayor and
the Honorable City Council
of the City of Cambridge.

Gentlemen:-

At a meeting of the Board of Directors on September 15th, a report of the Municipal Affairs Committee recommending a change from the present system of four police stations to a single centrally located station was approved.

The recommendations of the committee are:-

"(1) That there be a single centrally located station;

(2) That the present Brattle Square municipal building either be remodelled for a central station or that a new station be erected on that site, and that the City Hall be remodelled to provide quarters for city departments now located in the Central Square municipal building. In the alternative an exchange might be made by the City of the Brattle Square property of 16,153 feet for the property of the Boston Elevated Railway across Mt. Auburn Street amounting to 29,632 feet divided by the entrance to the Subway and the new central station built thereon."

The detailed report of the committee, copies of which will be forwarded to the Mayor and City Council, will be placed before the September meeting of the Board of Trade for discussion of the recommendations and ratification of the action of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell D. Crane

Executive Secretary

Petition
of Cambridge Board of Trade
relative to present system of
fire police stations.

September 1916.

In City Council September 19, 1916.

[redacted]

Referred to Committee on
Public Safety

[signature] City Clerk.

Fruitable
Safety
Central Police Station

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts

In City Council Oct 10 1916.

	YEA	NAY	NOT VOTING
MR. APTED	1		
MR. BLANCHARD	2		
MR. COADY		1	
MR. COUNIHAN		2	
MR. DELEHANTY			1
MR. DURANT			2
MR. HOGAN		3	
MR. KIDDER	3		
MR. LEHAN		4	
MR. LYNCH	4		
MR. MULLETT	5		
MR. NELLIGAN		5	
MR. SHEA		6	
MR. STRATTON	6		
PRESIDENT DUNPHY	7		
	7	6	2

90

City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

~~IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN~~ Oct. 10, 1916.

The *Committee* on Public Safety

to which was referred sundry petitions and communications relative to the establishment of a Central Police Station

Reports recommending the adoption of the accompanying resolve favoring the establishment of a Central Station.

Charles P. Aplert

For the Committee.

REPORT

Committee on Public Safety

recommending resolve favoring establishment of central police station.

Oct. 10, 1916

Tabling
Resolve:
in favor of establishment
Cent Pk. St.

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts

In City Council Oct. 31 .....1916.

	YEA	NAY	NOT VOTING
MR. APTED		1	
MR. BLANCHARD	1		
MR. COADY	2		
MR. COUNIHAN	3		
MR. DELEHANTY			1
MR. DURANT		2	
MR. HOGAN	4		
MR. KIDDER		3	
MR. LEHAN	5		
MR. LYNCH		4	
MR. MULLETT	6		
MR. NELLIGAN	7		
MR. SHEA	8		
MR. STRATTON		5	
PRESIDENT DUNPHY		6	
	8	6	1

Apted
Amt:
can be before!
Public Safety

City of Cambridge

Massachusetts

In City Council Octo. 31 1916.

	YEA	NAY	NOT VOTING
MR. APTED	1		
MR. BLANCHARD		1	
MR. COADY		2	
MR. COUNIHAN		3	
MR. DELEHANTY			1
MR. DURANT	2		
MR. HOGAN		4	
MR. KIDDER		5	
MR. LEHAN		6	
MR. LYNCH		7	
MR. MULLETT	3		
MR. NELLIGAN	4		
MR. SHEA		8	
MR. STRATTON	5		
PRESIDENT DUNPHY	6		
	6	8	1

90

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

~~8.30 O'CLOCK P. M.~~

Tuesday, Nov. 14th, 1916.

5 o'clock, P.M. ~~191~~

In the matter of establishment of a Central Police Station-specially assigned by vote of City Council passed, October 31st, 1916.

City of Cambridge

Office of the City Clerk.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

CENTRAL POLICE STATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that a public hearing will be accorded to all persons interested in the matter of the establishment of a Central Police Station in this City, said hearing to be held before the City Council in its Chamber at City Hall, Cambridge, Mass., on Tuesday, November 14th, 1916, at five (5) o'clock, P. M.

All persons interested are invited to be present and will be accorded an opportunity to be heard.

By Order of the City Council,

EDWARD J. BRANDON,

City Clerk.

Nov 14, 1916

After hearing, laid on the table

City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 10, 1916.

RESOLVED:

That this City Council go on record in favor of the establishment of a Central Police Station.

Laid on the table

Oct 31, 1916

Taken from table and again laid on the table. - Hearing assigned for Nov. 14, 1916 at 5 P.M.

Dec. 26, 1916

Taken from the table, and amendment offered by adding "with a substation at North Cambridge and at East Cambridge at or near the present locations" amendment rejected and Resolve ~~As amended~~, laid on the table.

Jan 1. 1917

No further action taken.

Attest

Edward J Brandon

City Clerk

Resolve

In favor of Central Police Station

6 1

Oct. 10, 1910