

Astrid Anderson Dodds
73 Wendell Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-1963
617/354-6553
astrid@world.std.com

25 October 2000

Cambridge City Council
c/o Cambridge City Clerk
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Cambridge City Councillors:

When you make the decision about a new library, I hope you will choose the Prospect Street site.

The Prospect St. site is vastly preferable for a variety of reasons, including:

- no area of the city is better served by public transportation than Central Sq.
- children of several elementary schools can reach it on foot
- less affluent neighborhoods will be better served in this location
- a more spacious and versatile main library can be built here than on Broadway
- less parking will be needed

As a former CRLS parent who spent many volunteer hours there, I do have some perspective on which site might best serve CRLS students. What a CRLS student needs most is: (a) a laptop computer to own. Not a building next door.

(b) Peace and quiet. During this time of CRLS reorganization and of upheaval over standardized testing, don't send them bulldozers.

I am counting on you to preserve the open space as it now exists on the current library site. It is very much a part of my urban walking neighborhood. The wonderful geometry of all the open spaces around CRLS and the present library provide restful, soothing vistas for young and old alike. Unlike most books, these spaces are irreplaceable.

I am counting on you, too, to maintain part of the current library building as the best branch library ever -- including for the Agassiz neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Astrid A. Dodds

Consent Communicaiton #1

S-361

A communicaiton was received from
Astrid A. Dodds, relative to the
new library site.

In City Council October 30, 2000