



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SUSAN B. SCHLESINGER

*Assistant City Manager for
Community Development*

BETH RUBENSTEIN

*Deputy Director for
Community Development*

To: Robert W. Healy
City Manager

From: Susan B. Schlesinger *SBS*
Assistant City Manager for Community Development

Date: December 11, 1997

Re: Response to Council Order #30, November 24, 1997

The park at 82 Pacific Street was created as part of the 1992 agreement with MIT during the South of Pacific Street rezoning initiative (see attached map for location). This park is intended to be used as a City of Cambridge facility for organized, city sponsored activities (e.g. youth soccer practices) as well as informal neighborhood use.

Recommendations on the design for this park, which came out of a series of community meetings in 1993, included a combination of informal field play, areas for play equipment, benches and plantings. Currently, open space planning projections recommend the construction of the park at 82 Pacific Street for Fiscal Year 2000.

The publicly beneficial open space which is being created as part of the University Park Phase III development is located one half block down Sidney Street from the park at 82 Pacific Street (see attached map for location). This open space was designated in the Design Review Guideline Agreement of January 1988 and was created to substantially fulfill the zoning requirement for a publicly beneficial open space. In the City of Cambridge Zoning Ordinance (p. 2-7), the term "publicly beneficial open space" is defined as:

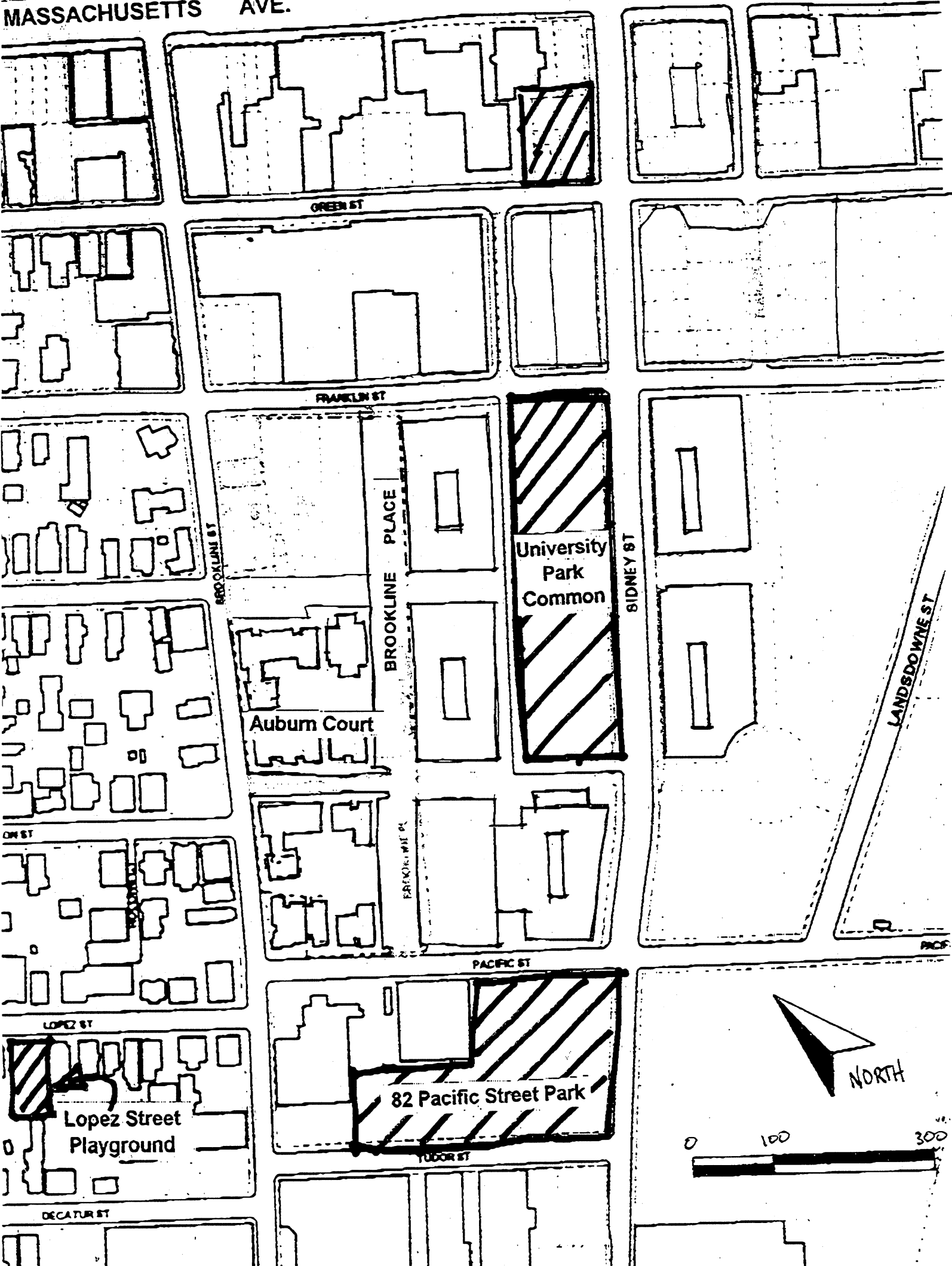
A portion of a structure, a lot or another area of land associated with and adjacent to a building or group of buildings in relation to which it serves to provide light and air, or scenic, recreation, pedestrian amenity of similar purposes.....Publicly beneficial open space shall include parks, plazas, lawns, landscaped areas, decorative plantings, and active and passive recreational areas.

Both of these sites are located within 250 ft. of the newly constructed Auburn Court residential development and are within 250 ft. of each

other. Clearly a direct connection between the publicly beneficial open space and the park at 82 Pacific Street would be desirable.

The Planning Board will schedule a discussion of the University Park Master Plan and Design Guidelines with Forest City in January 1998. This discussion will concern the University Park Master Plan and may include discussion of the proposed building at the corner of Sidney and Pacific Streets. The siting of this building could provide an opportunity for additional visual or functional connections between these open spaces.

MASSACHUSETTS AVE.





CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307



23.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

December 15, 1997

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 31, regarding a report on how the proposed University Park "Park" will be integrated with the Pacific Street Park, and how it will serve the residential community, received from Assistant City Manager for Community Development Susan Schlesinger.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/dls
attachment

Consent Agenda #23

5-779

Relative to Awaiting Report Item Number
Thirty-One, regarding a report on how
the proposed University Park "Park" will
be integrated with the Pacific Street
Park and how it will serve the residential
community.

In City Council December 15, 1997

PLACED ON FILE