

City of Cambridge

Roundtable Discussion on City Council Goal of Fostering Community

March 26, 2001

Foster community. Support opportunities for citizens to know each other within their neighborhoods and across the city.

Policy guidelines include:

- *Support opportunities for new Cambridge residents to get to know the history, values, cultural resources, and fellow residents of the city.*
- *Support institutions that promote local interaction, such as youth sports leagues, art activities, volunteer senior citizen corps, etc.*
- *Support Internet opportunities such as policy forums or chat rooms on community oriented topics.*
- *Identify the positive organizing opportunities for members of the community that are inherent in shared experiences or issues of residents.*
- *Continue to support celebrations, both neighborhood and citywide, as important opportunities for people to be together.*

City Manager's Key Implementation Goals:

- Welcome and orient new residents to the City of Cambridge using a variety of mechanisms including a direct mail piece: "A Guide to City Services." Develop a video on Cambridge, also to be used to welcome and orient new residents.
- Support community celebratory and educational events, both large and small -- such as Danehy Park Family Day, National Night Out Against Crime, and neighborhood block parties to facilitate opportunities for people to get together.
- Continue to work with local arts organizations to provide park-based arts programs in the summer for families as well as neighborhood potlucks, block parties and cultural celebrations.
- Strengthen role of branch libraries as neighborhood centers and gathering places through programming, outreach and collaboration with community groups. Continue regular book discussion groups at all public library locations to promote community and cultural exchange.

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