

19 June 1998

Advocates for a New Main Library in Central Square
Ms. Frances Wirta, Chair
141 Erie St.
Cambridge, MA 02139

To the Cambridge City Council:

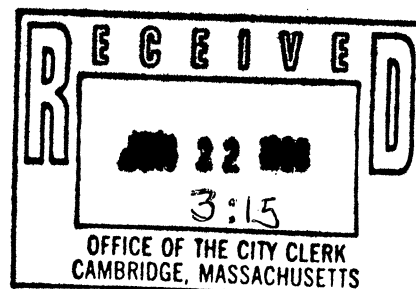
Advocates for a New Main Library in Central Square is pleased that the site selection phase of the Cambridge Public Library expansion project is now well under way.

The report of the site consultants, Sasaki Associates, confirms our own year-long analysis of the promise of Central Square as an appropriate and fitting location for the new main library: Central Square is the demographic center of Cambridge, located at the seam of four of the city's most diverse and representative neighborhoods; it is easily accessible by public transportation, and would thus reduce vehicular trips by library users; it is surrounded by the highest concentrations of the children's population, as attested by the number of schools and youth centers nearby; it provides a supporting context of municipal and commercial uses that is essential for a successful public building; it affords the potential of public/private mixed-use as a development and financing alternative; it affords the best location for a state-of-the-art, fully functional new library building with adequate space for future expansion; it is the place where the entire community can best appreciate and benefit from our City's investment in an exciting and distinguished work of architecture.

The Library's mission for the 21st century will entail continued service to existing library constituencies coupled with a vigorous outreach to new users as well. Central Square is a genuine civic heart and crossroads of our community: it is a place of public gathering and debate, of festival and celebration, of day to day commerce and greeting. A new main library in Central Square would be ideally situated to serve as a gateway for literacy and community, repose and renewal, research and exploration for all of our citizens.

Please join us in support of Central Square as the place of choice for Cambridge's Library of the 21st Century. Advocates for a New Main Library in Central Square, 141 Erie St. 02139; phone: 576-3541, fax: 492-2146, E-mail: gintell @ shore.net

Frances Wirta, Chair
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Guillermine Delacoste
John Gintell
Arnold Goldstein
George Metzger
Eric Pfeufer
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Consent Communication #4 5055

A communication was received
from Frances Wirta, Chair,
Advocates for a New Main Library
in Central Square, transmitting
support for the site selection
phase of the expansion project.

In City Council July 27, 1998

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