



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

February 14, 1977

Mayor Alfred E. Vellucci
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mayor Vellucci:

I write on behalf of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to endorse and support the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Plan Amendment which is to be considered by the Cambridge City Council in a hearing called for 8 p.m. on Monday, February 14, 1977.

M.I.T. is intimately concerned with the prospective development of Kendall Square. An important part of the M.I.T. campus is in Kendall Square directly across the street from the proposed redevelopment. The Institute has also expended large sums in private development in that area. And we have been involved for over a decade and more in relating to various plans that have been developed tentatively for the renewal area itself, and all this at considerable expenditure in staff time and effort.

We were also directly involved, on still another side of this renewal area, with the development of Technology Square. That project was initiated over a decade ago. M.I.T.'s main objective in entering, in agreement with the City, upon the Technology Square development was to build additional taxable property for Cambridge and to create increased employment opportunities to the City. That goal was realized most effectively some years ago, and the plan has now been even further extended with the location there of the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, formerly an integral part of M.I.T.

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M.I.T.'s participation in the Kendall Square renewal plan as a friend of the City began in the summer of 1965 with action by this City Council to accept an M.I.T. submission of Section 112 credits. This action led eventually, in the fall of 1967, to approval by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development of \$6,200,000 in M.I.T. credits for the City of Cambridge. These credits, together with subsequent action by the Congress, have proven sufficient to cover the City's required share of the cost of this renewal.

Further, since the spring of 1968, M.I.T. has been engaged at various times and in various ways with City reviews and studies of the development opportunities in the Kendall Square Renewal Area. In more recent years, we participated in the development of the Neighborhood Plan, which was endorsed by the City Council in October of 1974; we have been a member of the Neighborhood Advisory Group, which has met on 25 to 30 separate occasions since then to discuss the progress of the plan; and we participated in the reviews of the Environmental Impact Report, and in the deliberations of the Urban Land Institute Panel last November. As a member of the Neighborhood Advisory Group, and independently for our part, we endorse the position that the time has come for action on Kendall Square. M.I.T. does support fully this plan amendment. And we respectfully urge its unanimous adoption by the Council so that Cambridge may move ahead to realize all its many potential benefits.

Sincerely yours,



Walter L. Milne
Special Assistant

cc: Members of the Cambridge City Council

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