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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

November 5, 2001

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item Numbers 00-99, regarding the exploration of using linkage for open space purposes, 00-106, regarding follow-up on the Green Ribbon report, and 00-138 and 01-244, regarding the formation of a permanent open space committee, Assistant City Manager for Community Development Beth Rubenstein reports the following:

As you know, the Community Preservation Act (CPA) is on the November ballot. If Cambridge voters adopt the CPA, Cambridge stands to receive as much as \$5 million in state matching funds from a surcharge on certain filings at the Registry of Deeds and the Land Court. Such funds are required to be used for affordable housing, open space and historical preservation purposes, with at least 10% of the total allocation (state matching and local funds) to be spent on each of these three purposes. In addition, following passage of the CPA the City Manager will appoint a committee that will be charged with recommending allocation of CPA funds as part of the city budget process.

That committee would be a natural successor to the Green Ribbon Committee and would function as an open space advisory group. They would study the needs, possibilities and resources of the City regarding community preservation, hold public hearings, and make recommendations regarding acquisition, creation and preservation of open space. They would be expected to draw upon the Green Ribbon report in making any recommendations. Because of the anticipated structure of the local CPA committee, it is advisable to await the outcome of the Community Preservation Act before appointing a separate permanent open space committee.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy".

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec



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Consent Agenda #6

Awaiting Report Item
Numbers 00-99, 00-106, 00-138
and 01-244, regarding open
spaces issues.

In City Council November 5, 2001

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