



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
 251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
 Boston, MA 02114-2119

JANE SWIFT
GOVERNOR

BOB DURAND
SECRETARY

Tel. (617) 626-1000

Fax (617) 626-1181

<http://www.magnet.state.ma.us/envir>

November 27, 2001

Mr. Robert Healy
 City Manager
 Cambridge City Hall
 795 Massachusetts Avenue
 Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

The Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) is pleased to announce the completion of the buildout analysis for the City of Cambridge. Due to the completion of the buildout, the City of Cambridge is now eligible to receive \$30,000 in planning services and technical assistance.

A "buildout analysis" consists of a series of 5 Geographic Information Systems-based (GIS-based) maps (included in the tube) that illustrate the maximum development possible in a particular community if every piece of developable land were developed based upon existing local zoning, or if there was redevelopment potential in districts outlined by the city. The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), in cooperation with the City of Cambridge's local planning and community development departments, completed the study. It is a planning tool designed to stimulate discussion and help communities identify if they are growing the way they want and what, if any, changes they would like to make.

In January 2000, Governor Jane Swift released Executive Order 418, *Assisting Communities in Addressing the Housing Shortage*, which established a voluntary program for community planning and provided incentives to communities that provide additional housing across a broad range of incomes. By pooling fiscal resources, EOEA, the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), the Department of Economic Development (DED), and the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction (EOTC) are providing up to \$30,000 in planning services and technical assistance to every community to complete a Community Development Plan (CD Plan). The MAPC will administer the CD Plan program if the city chooses to participate. Information about the planning process is contained in the guidebook (enclosed), *Building Vibrant Communities: Linking Housing, Economic Development, Transportation and the Environment*, developed by the four state agencies listed above. Also included in the guidebook is a resource CD and Adobe Acrobat versions of the buildout maps.

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In addition to these resources, a member of my staff will be available to give a presentation on these materials to your City Council or city staff on the various aspects of Community Preservation, as well as, the Community Preservation Act, if you should desire.

We hope you are able to enjoy and benefit from these resources. Please do not hesitate to call or email Dawn Henderson, with any questions, or if you would like to schedule a presentation. She may be reached at (617) 626-4907 or dawn.henderson@state.ma.us.

Very truly yours,



Bob Durand

cc: The Honorable Anthony Galluccio
Nancy Glowa
Margaret Drury
Mark Racicot
Beth Rubenstein

Enclosures

4345

Consent Communication #2

A communication was received from Bob Durand, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, regarding the completion of the buildout analysis for the City of Cambridge.

In City Council December 17, 2001

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