

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Design Review Application – EF/G Open Space



Presented by:

DW NP Property, LLC c/o DivcoWest Real Estate Investments 200 State Street, 12th Floor Boston, MA 02109



Prepared by:

Beals and Thomas, Inc. Reservoir Corporate Center 144 Turnpike Road Southborough, MA 01772

In collaboration with:

Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Inc. Galluccio & Watson, LLP Goulston & Storrs PC

Submitted in Compliance with the City of Cambridge Zoning Ordinance and M.G.L. c.40A

December 5, 2017



Southborough, MA 01772-2104

T 508.366.0560 F 508.366.4391 www.bealsandthomas.com Regional Office: Plymouth, MA

December 5, 2017

Mr. H. Theodore Cohen, Chair Cambridge Planning Board 344 Broadway Cambridge, MA 02139

Via: Hand Delivery

Reference: Cambridge Crossing (formerly known as NorthPoint) EF/G Open Space

Design Review Application

PB #179

Cambridge, Massachusetts
B+T Project No. 2084.02

Dear Chairman Cohen and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the Applicant, DW NP Property, LLC (an affiliate of DivcoWest), Beals and Thomas, Inc., respectfully submits this Design Review Application for the EF/G Open Space (the Site), which is part of the larger Cambridge Crossing (formerly known as NorthPoint) development. The proposed development on the Site is proposed to contain passive and active recreational open space. EF/G is located mostly in Somerville, with the portion of the Site in Cambridge.

As shown on the master plan included as part of this Application, the Site is bounded by the MBTA right of way to the north, Parcel EF to the west, Dawes Street to the south, and Parcel G to the east.

The Site is currently undeveloped vacant land adjacent to the existing North Point Common. It is one of six open space areas in the Cambridge Crossing mixed-use development. To date, condominium buildings on Lot S and Lot T, a rental residential building on Lot N, North Point Common, Child Street Park and related infrastructure and other public amenities (including the Brian P. Murphy Memorial Staircase) have been constructed at Cambridge Crossing. In addition, Parcel JK has obtained Design Review approval in Cambridge and Somerville, and is currently under construction. The surrounding roadway network was approved by the Planning Board on September 2, 2016, as part of Major Amendment #6, and is currently under construction.

The EF/G site is approximately 22,454 sf or ± 0.516 acres in size. The Site is proposed to be comprised of a three-season synthetic turf play surface, two (2) larger areas of plantings and seating, and moveable seating for sport uses as well as seating for passive uses. Approximately four (4) short-term bicycle parking spaces will be provided on-site.

The Applicant filed a design and review application with the City of Somerville Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development on October 5, 2017.

Mr. H. Theodore Cohen, Chair Cambridge Planning Board December 5, 2017 Page 2

In addition, a portion of EF/G's current configuration is to be subdivided as depicted on the enclosed draft Subdivision Plan prepared by Beals & Thomas, Inc., dated December 21, 2016, and last updated July 21, 2017, to create the EF/G open space lot identified as "Parcel 1-E" on the attached plan. As part of the Design Review Application for Parcel G, the Applicant requested the approval of the enclosed Subdivision Plan, and requested endorsement by the Planning Board.

As part of this application, we have included fifteen (15) copies, as well as a flash drive containing an electronic version, of the following materials for review by the Cambridge Planning Board:

- Site Plans:
- Renderings;
- Sections;
- Compliance Checklist NorthPoint Design Guidelines;
- Subdivision Plan, previously approved by the Cambridge Planning Board; and
- Draft Subdivision Plan.

There are no changes proposed to the approved uses on the Site nor are there any changes to the layout of roads serving the Site from that shown on the approved 40-scale Roadway Network Schematic Plan.

The Cambridge Crossing team is excited to meet with the Planning Board to review and discuss the evolution of design of the proposed project. Thank you for your consideration of the enclosed.

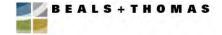
Very truly yours,

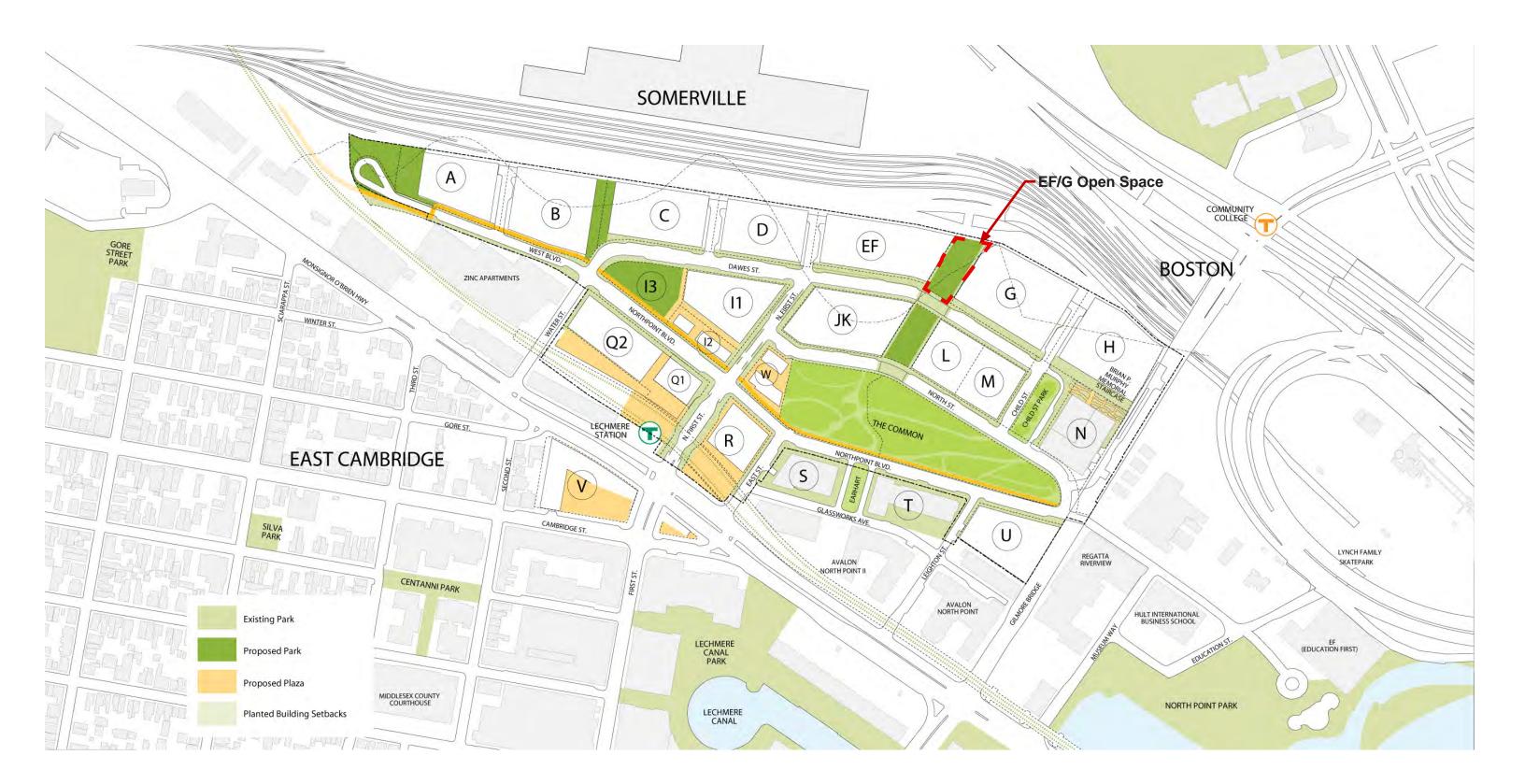
BEALS AND THOMAS, INC.

John P. Gelcich, AICP

Senior Planner

JPG/mac/208402PT036























VIEW TOWARDS EF/G OPEN SPACE FROM DAWES STREET SIDEWALK







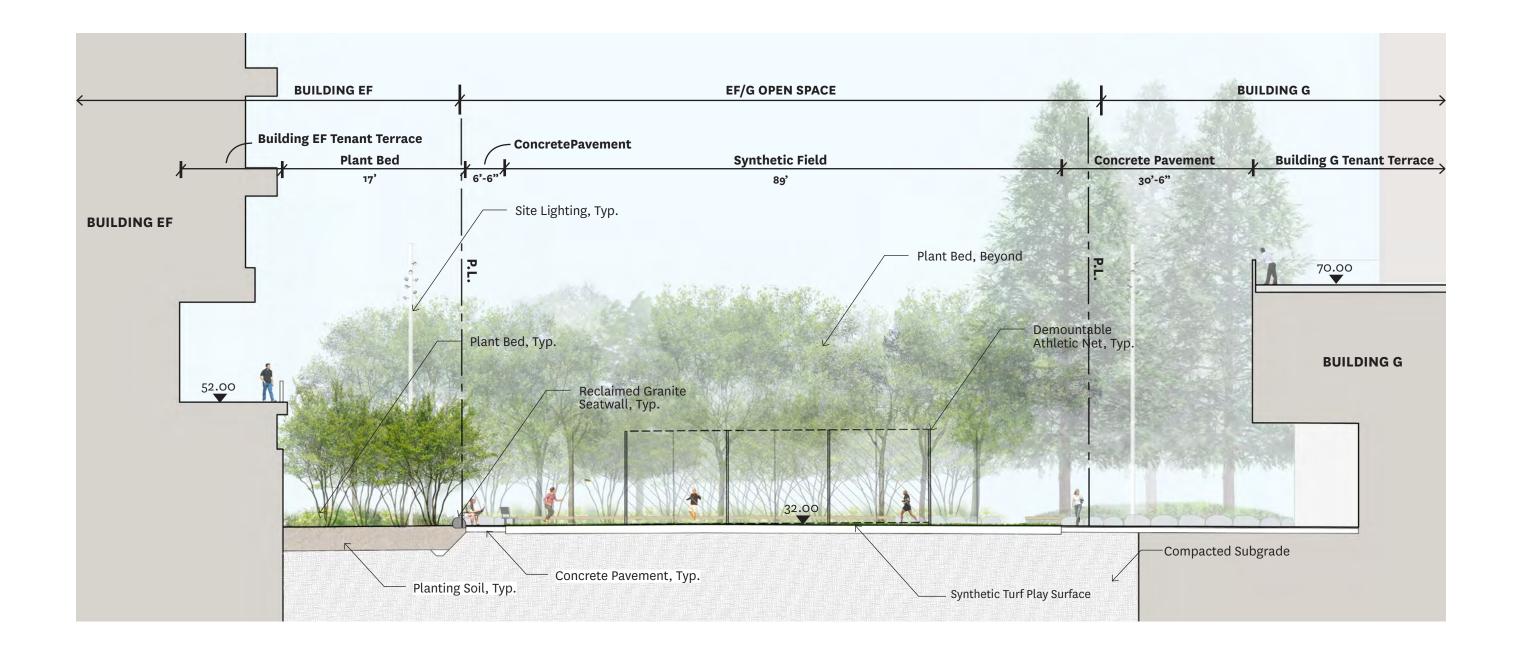
VIEW TOWARDS BUILDING G LOBBY



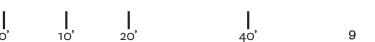


VIEW TOWARDS BUILDING EF

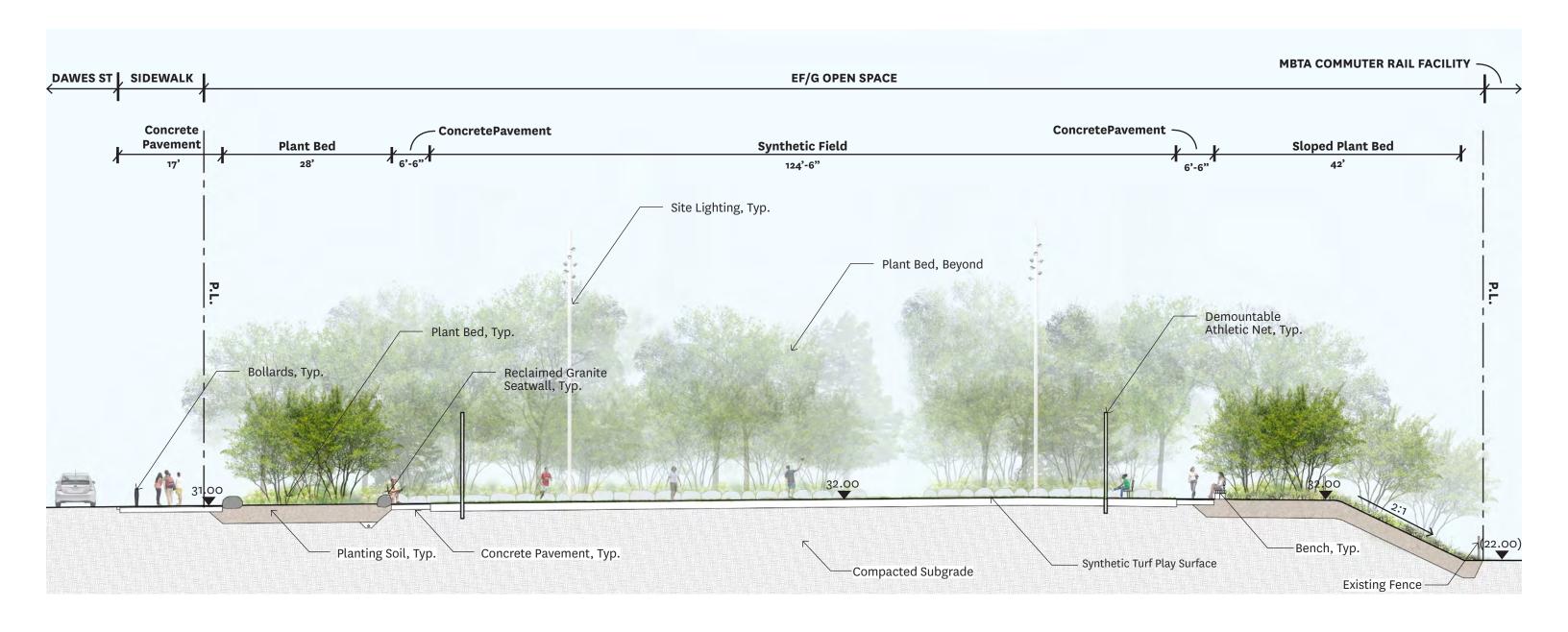




SECTION A - A'







SECTION B - B'

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Acer saccharum 'Green Mountain' Green Mountain Sugar Maple



Gymnocladus dioicus Kentucky Coffee Tree



Acer rubrum Red Maple



Acer saccharum 'Silver Queen' Silver Maple



Picea orientalis Oriental Spruce



Metasequoia glyptostroboides Dawn Redwood





Amelanchier arborea
Serviceberry



Chioanthus virginicus White Fringetree



Hamamelis x intermedia 'Arnold Promise" Witch Hazel



Ilex Glabra Inkberry



Ilex verticillata
Winterberry Holly



Dennstaedtia punctilobula Hay-Scented Fern



Polystichum acrostichoides Christmas Fern



Polygonatum biflorum Solomon's Seal



Vinca minor Lesser Periwinkle





Exposed Aggregate Concrete Pavement



Synthetic Turf Play Surface



Concrete Pavement



Reclaimed Granite Block Seatwalls



Movable Tables and Chairs



Bench



Backless Bench



Movable Athletic Bench



Trash Receptacle



Bike Rack



Planter, Clustered



Planter, Linear

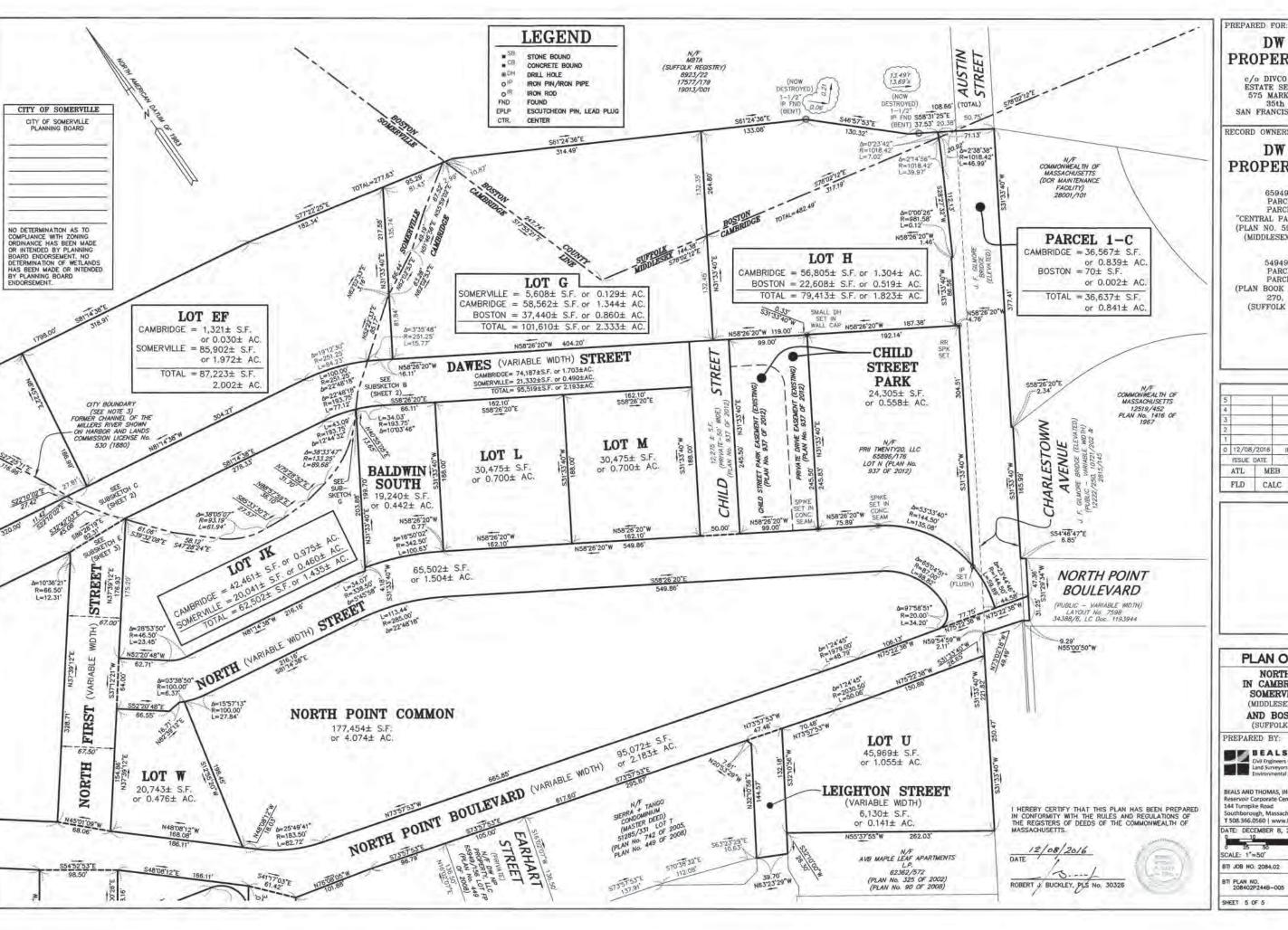


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Page	Section	Guideline Description	Compliance	Check
39	3.1 Open Spaces	Open spaces of diverse size and use is encouraged to enhance the public environment at NorthPoint. All open spaces at North point shall be designed to be public in nature, creating an open environment that the public can easily identify that is welcoming for everyone's use.	At around 27,000 SF, the EF/G Open Space is the largest of the four pocket parks proposed along Dawes St. It will be open and accessible from Dawes Street and the neighboring EF and G buildings, with open sight lines, no fences, and multiple connections to the Dawes Street sidewalk. The active turf field will support programming unique to its scale and location, focused on exercise, informal sports and events. The design relates to the adjacent Baldwin Open Space in its materials and character.	✓
39	3.1 Open Spaces	Interconnected series of open spaces is encouraged to provide connections both to neighborhoods and within NorthPoint so as to promote pedestrian movement.	The EF/G Open Space is the northern part of the Baldwin Open Space Green Finger, connecting back to the Common at the center of the Cambridge Crossing neighborhood. There is a direct and generous pedestrian connection to Baldwin Open Space provided by a raised crosswalk at Dawes St.	✓
39	3.1 Open Spaces	In addition to the large park, the creation of a series of smaller open spaces such as pocket parks, public plazas, active recreation areas, courtyards, play areas and gardens is encouraged.	The EF/G Open Space is programmed as an active recreation area, complementary to the character and use of the other open spaces at Cambridge Crossing.	✓
39	3.1 Open Spaces	Open spaces shall be articulated throughout NorthPoint through wayfinding and signage measures including space types, themes and programs.	The EF/G Open Space is connected thematically to other open spaces at Cambridge Crossing through its use of materials, particularly reclaimed granite boulders, concrete walkways, layered plantings, and site furniture. The design is particularly connected in the use of materials with the adjacent Baldwin Open Space.	✓
39	3.1 Open Spaces	Open spaces shall be visible and accessible from public streets.	Open sightlines and multiple points of access are provided from Dawes Street and the landscapes of the adjacent EF and G buildings.	✓
39	3.1.1 Open Space Programming	Strolling, Sitting, Picnicking, Sunbathing, Informal Sport Activities, Frisbeem Sledding, Outdoor Movies, Yoga, Outdoor Performances, Dog Walking, Birdwatching	The Open Space design introduces spaces for sitting, informal sport activities, yoga and performances.	✓
41	3.1.2 Parks	Fencing is strongly discouraged; clear entry points, lines of sight into the park, and pathways for the public to use are encouraged.	No fences are used to define the park boundaries. A hardscaped plaza extends from Dawes St into the Open Space and a public footpath loops around the perimeter of the central field.	√
41	3.1.2 Parks	Individual spaces within the large parks are encouraged to have clear identities and themes, so that the public can understand the potential use, including areas for gathering and community events.	Smaller scale seating areas are located at the edges of the park including casual seating on reclaimed granite boulders, fixed timber benches with and without backs, moveable tables and chairs, and moveable aluminum benches at the edge of the active field.	✓
41	3.1.2 Parks	Loading and service shall not interfere with the core function of the park spaces.	There is no loading or service near the EF/G Open Space.	\checkmark
41	3.1.2 Parks	The Pocket Parks at NorthPoint shall be designed to be public in nature, creating an open environment that the public can easily identify as welcoming and for everyone's use. The entrance to the park from streets and sidewalks should be designed to be open and inviting to the public.	The south edge of the Open Space along Dawes Street is designed to be open and inviting to the public with multiple openings to the sidewalk. The plant beds with seating edges are designed to provide an occupiable, shaded threshold landscape.	
41	3.1.2 Parks	Active Pocket Parks are encouraged to have active recreational program including sports and gardening and be designed to be used by the whole community.	The central feature of the EF/G Open Space is a small turf field programmed for active recreation.	√
45	3.1.5 Active Pocket Parks	The Active Pocket Parks will serve particular programmatic functions at NorthPoint, complementing the uses of the other open spaces in the neighborhood. Active functions may include small sport courts, for example volleyball, basketball, and a five-a-side soccer. Other activities such as community gardening, play, small public events and performances will also be accommodated by these parks. Their location on the northern side of the neighborhood make each of the parks self-contained in the urban block structure. They should be designed to be open and welcoming from the south side, and have a character that is clearly public independent from the flanking building.	open and welcoming with multiple entry points. The richly planted edges create a character that is independent of the adjacent EF and G buildings.	✓



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DW NP PROPERTY, LLC

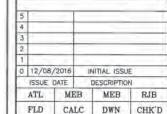
c/o DIVCO WEST REAL ESTATE SERVICES, LLC 575 MARKET STREET 35th FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

RECORD OWNERS:

DW NP PROPERTY, LLC

65949/156 PARCEL 1 PARCEL 2 "CENTRAL PARK" PARCEL (PLAN NO. 597 OF 2010) (MIDDLESEX COUNTY)

54949/293 PARCEL 1 PARCEL 2 (PLAN BOOK 2010 PAGES 270 271) (SUFFOLK COUNTY)



PLAN OF LAND

NORTHPOINT IN CAMBRIDGE AND SOMERVILLE, MA (MIDDLESEX COUNTY) AND BOSTON, MA

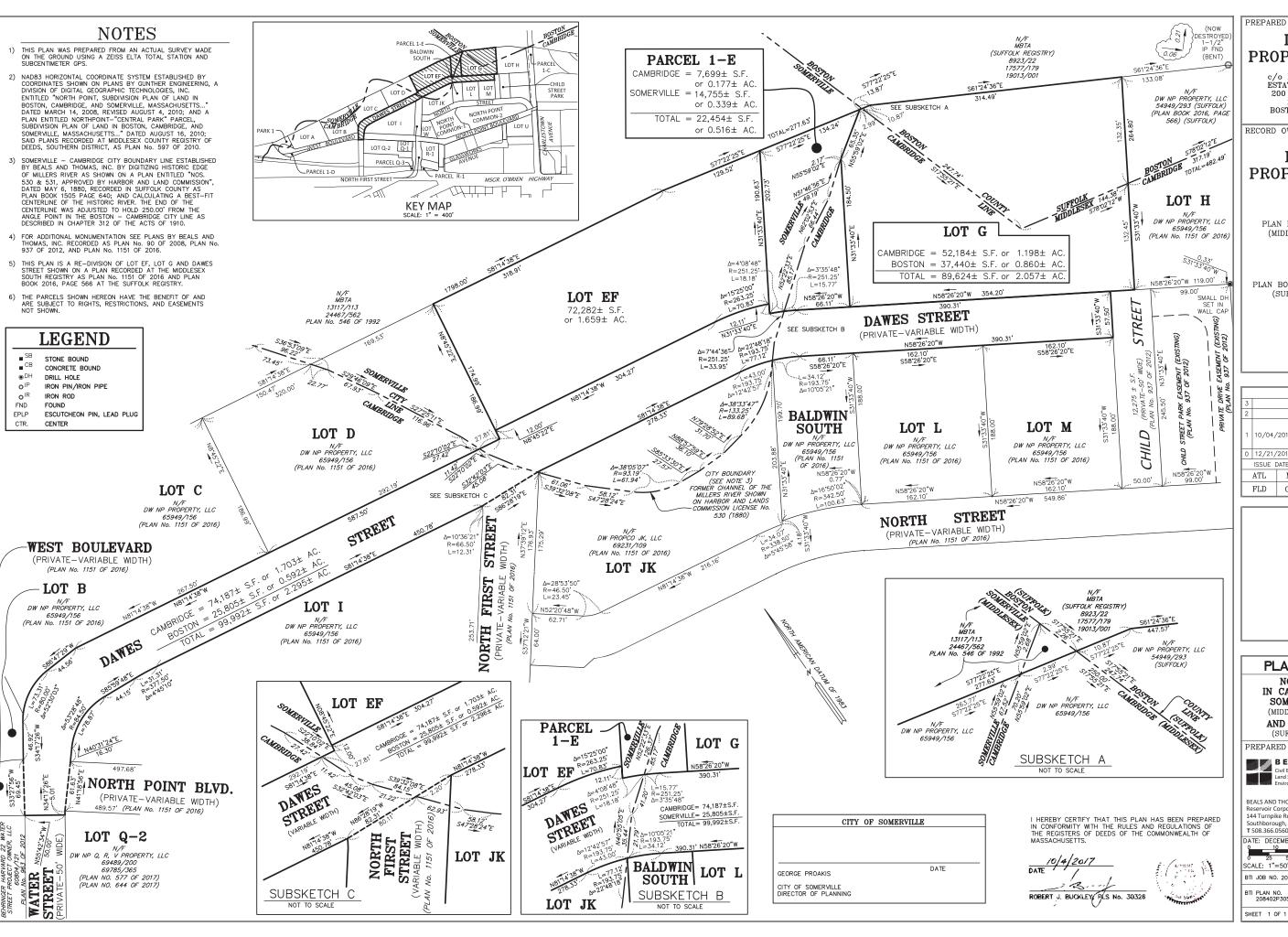
(SUFFOLK COUNTY)



BEALS+THOMAS

BEALS AND THOMAS, INC. Reservoir Corporate Center 144 Turnpike Road outhborough, Massachusetts 01772-2104 T 508.366.0560 | www.beal

DATE: DECEMBER 8, 2016



PREPARED FOR:

DW NP PROPERTY, LLC

c/o DIVCOWEST REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS 200 STATE STREET. 12TH FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02109

RECORD OWNERS:

DW NP PROPERTY, LLC

65949/156 LOT EF LOT G PLAN No. 1151 OF 2016 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY)

54949/293 LOT EF LOT G PLAN BOOK 2016, PAGE 566 (SUFFOLK COUNTY)

3					
2					
1	10/04/2017		REVISE DAWES STREET AND LOTS EF AND G. CREATE PARCEL 1-E.		
0	12/21/2016		INITIAL ISSUE		
ISSUE DATE			DESCRIPTION		
ATL M		M)	EB	MEB	RJB
FLD CA		LC	DWN	CHK'D	

PLAN OF LAND

NORTHPOINT IN CAMBRIDGE AND SOMERVILLE, MA (MIDDLESEX COUNTY) AND BOSTON, MA (SUFFOLK COUNTY)

PREPARED BY:



BEALS AND THOMAS, INC. 144 Turnpike Road Southborough, Massachusetts 01772-2104

T 508.366.0560 | www.bealsandthomas.com DATE: DECEMBER 21, 2016 FEET

SCALE: 1"=50' BTI JOB NO. 2084.02

BTI PLAN NO. 208402P305B-001

