

Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Study Update – 2011  
 2004 Neighborhood Study Update Recommendations with Progress and Status

Source	Rec#	Land Use and Zoning Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	LU 9	The City should work to protect existing small businesses and promote new small businesses within Mid-Cambridge. This might be accomplished through zoning or design guidelines (especially of locations with desirable non-conforming uses on Broadway and Cambridge Streets). Some areas that could be considered for this type of zoning would be the Skenderian Apothecary site and the former Savenours site. The City should look for additional appropriate locations.	<p><b>COMPLETED PROCESS:</b> The Community Development Department held meetings in 2007 to discuss possible zoning approaches to support existing non-conforming retail businesses in the residential neighborhood. There was little support for changes to current zoning regulations.</p> <p>The city’s Economic Development Division actively works to support small businesses in a variety of ways, including improvement grants, workshops, one-on-one consulting, and assistance matching local retail business owners with available spaces.</p>
2004 Update	LU 10	The City should provide better information and outreach to the public about its Growth Policies and Zoning, especially recent changes that occurred through the Citywide Rezoning process.	The Community Development Department produced and distributed outreach materials on the Citywide Rezoning in the years after it was completed in 2001. The City has continued to make ongoing incremental improvements to the availability and dissemination of zoning information, with a focus on materials made available on the web.

Source	Rec#	Institution Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	I 33	Coordinate with Harvard University regarding the planned Knafel Center and main library expansion, in order to minimize negative impacts on the neighborhood during construction.	Harvard now employs a comprehensive construction mitigation program for its building projects, which includes designated mitigation managers, regular meetings with neighborhood groups, a call center (617-496-0857), a web site ( <a href="http://construction.harvard.edu">construction.harvard.edu</a> ), and an e-mail list for updates. The Knafel Center project was completed in 2005.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	T 35	Explore ways to provide adequate transportation to the airport from Central Square.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> The MBTA Silver Line trolley, completed in 2005, provides service directly to the Logan Airport terminals from South Station, which connects to Central Square via the Red Line.
2004 Update	T 36	Address the abuse of visitor parking permits.	The Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department is aware of the potential for abuse of visitor parking permits. Each household is allowed only one visitor permit, valid only within that household's neighborhood, and the rules about usage are strictly enforced. Selling visitor permits is prohibited and can result in revocation of city parking privileges.
2004 Update	T 37	Use hand held computerized devices to monitor parking.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> Parking Control Officers began using handheld electronic devices in 2005.
2004 Update	T 38	Give neighborhood residents more leniency at parking meters in the early morning hours.	In some areas, including a small portion of Cambridge Street, residents and businesses have agreed to change the meter start time to 9:00am instead of 8:00am. Agreement on the part of local businesses, as well as residents, is necessary to make such a change.
2004 Update	T 39	Mark spaces for more efficient parallel parking, while taking into account the location of trees and poles along the street.	Not all on-street parking spaces are marked, but when new parking space markings are painted, they are designed in the most efficient way possible and account for roadway infrastructure and trees.
2004 Update	T 40	Continue or increase support for the Zip Car system.	Vehicle sharing programs are encouraged by the City as an alternative to owning and driving private cars. There are many ZipCars located throughout the city, including some in municipal lots and garages or on city streets.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	T 41	Explore less intrusive ways to undertake street cleaning, which currently adds to parking problems in the neighborhood.	Monthly street cleaning is an important process that removes vehicle-related particles and chemicals from the roads that may be flushed into the water system when it rains. It also helps prevent catch basins from becoming clogged. While the Department of Public Works acknowledges the challenges of moving parked cars, the only feasible and effective method to clean is mechanized sweeping up to the curb line.
2004 Update	T 42	Develop better signage and additional traffic calming devices on Broadway.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> Broadway was repaved and marked with an “edge line” that narrows the roadway and allows for safer bicycling. Curb extensions were also added at several crosswalks.
2004 Update	T 43	Address noise generated by car radios, skateboarders, and ventilation systems of nearby buildings.	The City of Cambridge Noise Ordinance regulates noise levels from mechanical systems and activities in the city. Excessive noise from building systems should be reported to the Inspectional Services Department. Incidents of excessive noise at night can reported to the Cambridge Police Department. Information about noise complaints is available at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov">www.cambridgema.gov</a> .
2004 Update	T 44	Provide better information about the EZ Ride shuttle services to residents, such as schedules and the location of stops.	Stops along the EZRide shuttle route now have signage, route maps and posted schedules. The City helps to distribute maps and schedules, includes the EZRide route on its <i>Getting Around in Cambridge</i> map, and helps in other promotional efforts. Information is also available through the City’s website as well as <a href="http://www.ezride.info">www.ezride.info</a> . The EZRide currently carries about 2,000 passengers per day, and ridership has increased about 300% since it was introduced in 2002.
2004 Update	T 45	When parking must be restricted in areas during temporary work (such as tree pruning or construction), the restriction should only be in effect during work hours. A 3 PM to 7 AM easing of this type of restriction would be helpful to local residents.	Unless work needs to be performed at night, the City only restricts parking for the purposes of construction during normal work hours, typically 7:00am to 4:00pm.

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Source	Rec#	Housing Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	H 14	Address the amount of time it takes to get affordable housing.	The amount of time it takes for a household to find affordable housing is the result of high demand and limited supply of affordable units. Through the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust, the City works to support the creation of new affordable units to be made available to interested income-eligible households. The City also provides homebuyer resources, including first-time homebuyer classes, to help households purchase housing either from the City’s affordable housing supply or from the private market.
2004 Update	H 15	The City should conduct a comprehensive analysis of the housing situation in Cambridge. This should include a description of the availability and location of affordable units, as well as any potential or recent losses to the affordable housing stock. This information should be made available to the public.	The City has published and regularly updates a <i>Housing Market Report</i> , with data on housing in Cambridge, that is available on the Community Development Department website at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/cdd">www.cambridgema.gov/cdd</a> . CDD also tracks the status of affordable units with expiring use restrictions and works with owners and tenants to preserve these resources. Information on available affordable housing units can be found on the CDD website.
2004 Update	H 16	The Cambridge Housing Authority should provide better oversight of the Section 8 Program, to prevent abuses by landlords and tenants.	Oversight of the Section 8 program is the responsibility of the Cambridge Housing Authority. Concerns about the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program should be addressed to the CHA’s Director of Leased Housing.

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Source	Rec#	Economic Development Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	ED 8	Explore the feasibility of pushcarts in Central Square. While pushcarts could provide a desired increase in retail activity, they could also result in overcrowded sidewalks and an increase in litter. One alternative would be to permit pushcarts in less crowded edge areas of Central Square, such as the soon to be renovated Lafayette Square. Another would be to encourage more seasonal street festivals or events (similar to the farmer’s market), to be able to better manage the impacts of sidewalk retailing.	<p>While there has been some support for pushcarts in Central Square, they would pose many operational issues, including licensing, storage, cleaning, security, and conformance to health codes. Pushcart businesses might also conflict with existing stores in Central Square. The Red Ribbon Commission (discussed above) is reviewing possibilities.</p> <p>The weekly seasonal Central Square Farmers Market has become a popular establishment in the neighborhood, incorporating vendors of farm-fresh produce as well as stands serving prepared food.</p> <p><b>PLANNING IN PROGRESS:</b> The City has formed a Red Ribbon Commission, bringing together Central Square stakeholders to form a plan to improve the area for residents and small business owners. This group is discussing a range of issues affecting Central Square. A report is due by the end of summer 2011.</p>
2004 Update	ED 9	Improve litter removal, maintenance, and beautification in Central Square in order to create a more pleasant experience.	The Department of Public Works’ street cleaning program includes daily hand-vacuuming and litter collection in major squares. Community groups such as the Central Square Business Association also participate with the City in special clean-up days.

Source	Rec#	Open Space Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	OS 21	The City should continue to acquire open space. It is particularly important to acquire spaces in locations that lack open space, such as the Longfellow School.	The City continues to seek opportunities to create new open space, especially in areas prioritized by the Green Ribbon Open Space Committee in 2000.

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Source	Rec#	Open Space Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	OS 22	<p>The following improvements are suggested for Cooper Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Better enforcement of rules for appropriate use of water play equipment;</li> <li>b. Evaluation of whether the screening effect of plant material encourages inappropriate behavior on the interior edge of the park; and,</li> <li>c. Regular pruning and thinning of trees.</li> </ul>	<p>In general, it is the responsibility of parents and caretakers to observe playground rules. Problematic after-hours use or malevolent activity such as vandalism should be reported to the Cambridge Police.</p> <p>The Cambridge Department of Public Works regularly monitors the growth of trees and plantings in parks, and does pruning when appropriate. Visibility is one of the issues considered when deciding how much to prune.</p>
2004 Update	OS 23	<p>Close Cambridge Street or Broadway at certain times to provide more recreation space. This would be similar to the occasional closures of Memorial Drive during the summer.</p>	<p>Neighborhood or business groups can request street closings for special events, subject to the approval of residents, businesses, and city departments. The city’s Special Events Committee can assist with permitting and logistics. As an example, in fall 2010, part of Cambridge Street in East Cambridge was closed for a Sunday food festival sponsored by local restaurants.</p>
2004 Update	OS 24	<p>The City should create an inventory of private open spaces. This inventory should provide an overview of which spaces are open to the public as well as those that are not open to the public but provide visual and environmental benefits to the city. It should be noted whether any of these spaces might be lost to development.</p>	<p>Private open spaces are considered in Cambridge’s Open Space and Recreation Plan, which is updated regularly and filed with the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. This plan is available on the city’s website at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/cdd">www.cambridgema.gov/cdd</a>.</p>
2004 Update	OS 25	<p>Protect Joan Lorentz Park during the main library expansion. The expansion is an opportunity to look into ways of enhancing this space, such as providing benches.</p>	<p><b>COMPLETED:</b> The open space at Joan Lorentz Park was preserved and improved following the main library expansion, which was completed in 2009. It now includes improved pathways, seating and lighting, as well as a new adjacent tot lot area in front of the old library building.</p>
2004 Update	OS 26	<p>Provide air conditioning at War Memorial facilities.</p>	<p><b>COMPLETED:</b> The War Memorial building was fully renovated in 2008 with upgraded mechanical systems.</p>

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2004 Update	OS 27	Promote pedestrian and bicycle access to the Charles River. The river is the most important recreational resource available to Cambridge residents, and is difficult to access because of high traffic volumes on Memorial Drive.	The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation manages the Charles River parkland and Memorial Drive. Some improvements have taken place in recent years, including the narrowing of the roadway and enlargement of the riverside parkland near MIT. Future improvements are also planned. In addition, the Cambridge Community Development Department has been studying the riverfront area to make future planning recommendations to improve residents' access and enjoyment.
2004 Update	OS 28	There should be greater enforcement of dog restrictions throughout the City's park system. Bags and trash barrels should be provided to help owners clean up after their dogs.	The Cambridge Animal Commission patrols parks on a regular basis and issues violation notices to owners of dogs that are not leashed, not licensed, or in a prohibited area. Problems can be reported to the Animal Commission at 617-349-4376, and more frequent patrols will be made in areas where there have been a high number of complaints. Bags and trash receptacles for dog waste are provided in most parks.
2004 Update	OS 29	Safety at Magazine Beach is a major concern. The City and the Commonwealth's Division of Conservation and Recreation should come to agreement over whose police force has jurisdiction there, and how safety can be improved.	While the Massachusetts State Police has jurisdiction over Magazine Beach, the Cambridge Police will also respond to calls in that area.
2004 Update	OS 30	The condition of street trees should be evaluated and improved throughout the city. In Mid-Cambridge, there is particular concern about the health of large trees on Kirkland Street.	The Cambridge Department of Public Works monitors and collects information on the condition of street trees through a citywide tree inventory. On Kirkland Street, several trees that were in poor condition have been removed and new trees replanted.

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Source	Rec#	Other Recommendations	Progress and Status
2004 Update	X 1	Develop a neighborhood survey to obtain input from residents that are unable to go to community meetings.	<b>ONGOING:</b> The Community Development Department has started using questionnaires (available online and on paper) to gather information from community members as part of planning processes, to supplement the discussion heard at community meetings.
2004 Update	X 2	Consider developing a web-based form, which residents can use to offer suggestions and comments.	<b>ONGOING:</b> The questionnaires (described above) are typically made available on the web for community members to answer at their convenience. Other city departments also offer web-based forms to ask questions or to report complaints.

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Source	Rec#	Land Use and Zoning Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	LU 1	Examine potential of infill under current zoning. Conduct analysis including figure ground map.	Infill development was addressed through a process that resulted in a “Backyard Rezoning” petition, adopted in 1999. This zoning decreased the allowable dwelling unit density and increased the private open space requirement for lots in the Residence C-1 district, which has reduced the potential for developing new units in residential yard spaces.
1998 Study	LU 2	Conduct analysis towards the means of reducing excessive infill, and include in that consideration the following possible techniques: a. Consider increasing Zoning’s open space requirement. b. Consider changing C-1 residential district to C residential districts. c. Examine the Conservation District’s guidelines.	For the C-1 district, the “Backyard Rezoning” (mentioned above) increased the required lot area per dwelling unit from 1,200 square feet to 1,500 square feet (reducing the allowed unit density), and increased the required amount of open space on a lot from 15% to 30% of the lot area.
1998 Study	LU 3	Lower height limits to 45’ in the C-2 and C-3 residential districts on Harvard Street.	These residential districts on Harvard Street were rezoned to Residence C-2A and C-2B, in which the height limits are 60 feet and 45 feet, respectively. Some portions were rezoned to Residence C-1, which has a height limit of 35 feet.
1998 Study	LU 4	Consider requiring real estate agencies/mortgage lenders to provide prospective property owners with basic zoning information.	Information about zoning in Cambridge, including the complete ordinance, maps, and an informational <i>Zoning Guide</i> , is available on the city’s website. The City continually seeks ways to improve access to zoning information through web and print media.
1998 Study	LU 5	Support the City’s efforts to create better pedestrian areas and to improve bicycle access to public streets through the Street Enhancement Initiative. Install neck-downs at busy intersections: a. Massachusetts Avenue. b. Broadway. c. Cambridge Street.	The City continually seeks to improve pedestrian and bicycle travel in the city through street improvement projects. Massachusetts Avenue, Broadway, and Cambridge Street have been designed to include bicycle lanes or, where space does not exist, wider shoulders to accommodate bicycle travel. Curb extensions have also been installed at many neighborhood intersections.

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Source	Rec#	Land Use and Zoning Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	LU 6	<p>Support the improvement of streetscapes on major pedestrian spines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Harvard Street.</li> <li>b. Streets that serve as pedestrian pathways to the Charles River.</li> <li>c. Massachusetts Avenue.</li> <li>d. Increase renewal of missing or dying street trees, as well as maintenance and watering of existing street trees.</li> </ul>	<p>Several street improvement projects have taken place in the neighborhood, including the reconfiguration of Quincy Square (with the inclusion of new open space) in 1997, improvements to Central Square in 1997, and renovations to Prospect Street in 2010.</p> <p>The City also works to plant new street trees every year, which includes replacement of dead or removed trees, new plantings requested by residents or businesses, and focused plantings along major corridors such as Prospect Street and Cambridge Street. The City Arborist in the Department of Public Works manages the planting and care of city trees.</p>
1998 Study	LU 7	<p>Include edge districts in planning analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Support regional planning initiative to encourage planning across Somerville – Cambridge line. Consider establishing a bi-lateral commission to discuss cross-border issues. Consider establishing a non-binding review for zoning issues such as the Beacon - Hampshire edge.</li> <li>b. Work with Area 4 on improvements to Prospect Street.</li> </ul>	<p>While Cambridge has no zoning jurisdiction in Somerville – and vice versa – the two cities collaborate on regional issues such as transportation planning. Beacon Street in Somerville is expected to undergo reconstruction in the future.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED:</b> The Community Development Department led a planning study of the Prospect Street corridor in 2007, which resulted in new urban design standards for future development. The street was reconstructed in 2010 with new sidewalks and pavement markings. New street trees have been planted along the sidewalks.</p>
1998 Study	LU 8	<p>Establish better transition rules between commercial and residential zones covering height limits, landscaping, screening, lighting and parking, especially along:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Massachusetts Avenue.</li> <li>b. Prospect Street.</li> <li>c. Hampshire Street.</li> </ul>	<p>A citizen-led rezoning effort in 1998 led to the lowering of height limits in some commercial districts (such as Inman Square) and the rezoning of some commercial districts to residential. There are few commercial districts along Massachusetts Avenue with allowed heights above 45 feet. In those areas, large development would be subject to public review and a special permit from the Planning Board.</p>

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Source	Rec#	Institution Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	I 1	Conduct longer term planning relative to institutional issues. Continue work with institutions on long range planning, and increase communication with neighborhoods on Institution’s long-range plans.	For over 14 years, the City has received annual “Town-Gown” reports and presentations from its major educational institutions (Harvard University, MIT, Lesley University, Cambridge College). The purpose of this process is to monitor institutional growth and discuss future plans. Over time, the Planning Board and staff have worked to improve the quality of the information reported by the universities. Universities also communicate with the Planning Board and Community Development Department on specific planning initiatives.
1998 Study	I 2	Consider the publication/distribution of an informational handbook for residents of Cambridge outlining services and resources of the City’s institutions. Combine Cambridge School Department, other City Departments, Harvard University, and Hospital informational materials into one publication.	The City of Cambridge annually publishes <i>The Cambridge Life: Magazine and City Resource Guide</i> , which is available on the city website ( <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov">www.cambridgema.gov</a> ) and in print at city offices including City Hall and the Department of Human Service Programs at 51 Inman Street.
1998 Study	I 3	Increase public education of events/services: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cable television.</li> <li>b. Open houses.</li> <li>c. More news in newspapers.</li> <li>d. Citywide Internet.</li> </ol>	Public information about events and services is now widely available on the city website at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov">www.cambridgema.gov</a> and the websites of different institutions. Information is also available by visiting or calling city offices, and city departments conduct targeted outreach for different services and events through mailings, e-mail, newspapers, meetings and events, municipal cable television (Channel 8), posters and other means.
1998 Study	I 4	Consider requiring informational public meetings for large construction projects. If residents must rely on neighborhood civic organizations to disseminate information of on-goings in the neighborhood, then the City needs to support these groups financially and equally.	Large development projects that require a special permit or variance are required to have a public hearing. Public hearing notices are posted at City Hall, the project site, and on the City’s website, mailed to abutters within 300 feet of the project, and mailed or e-mailed to anyone else who has expressed interested in receiving announcements.

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1998 Study	I 5	<p>Improve communication to residents of publicly accessible Harvard/MIT other institutions facilities/resources (i.e. library):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Examine ways to provide mailings to every household (possible piggy-back mailings with City agencies).</li> <li>b. Column in local newspapers on institutional events open to the public: The Boston Globe, City Section; The Boston Herald; The Cambridge Tab; The Cambridge Chronicle.</li> <li>c. Include information in neighborhood newsletters.</li> </ul>	<p>Information about community resources at Harvard is available on the web at <a href="http://community.harvard.edu">community.harvard.edu</a>. MIT has information about events and cultural resources available at <a href="http://events.mit.edu">events.mit.edu</a> and <a href="http://web.mit.edu/life">web.mit.edu/life</a>.</p>
1998 Study	I 6	<p>Consider improving City and institution notification procedures for actions falling under Institutional Overlay District guidelines.</p>	<p>Development taking place within an Institutional Overlay District may or may not require a public hearing, depending on factors including the use, size, and distance from a public right-of-way or residential area. Projects that require a public hearing are advertised as described above.</p>
1998 Study	I 7	<p>Have institutions provide an annual report to the neighborhood; annual report to the Planning Board.</p>	<p>The City receives annual Town-Gown reports from its major educational institutions, as described above. The reports are made available on the City's website, and presentations are made at a public meeting of the Planning Board.</p>
1998 Study	I 8	<p>Examine locations available for an agreed upon place of posting for all information relevant to neighborhood (e.g. Broadway Market, Tot Lots, Library).</p>	<p>Bulletin boards have been made available in many city parks and public spaces. As new parks are renovated, bulletin boards are typically added where there is community support for including them. Members of the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association have also developed a system for voluntary posting of important neighborhood information on private property.</p>
1998 Study	I 9	<p>Regarding Harvard University: Resolve potential conflicts with face-to-face discussions in a joint planning process, as outlined in the Town-Gown Report.</p>	<p>Communication with Harvard occurs through the annual Town-Gown process, described above, as well as through meetings on specific planning topics.</p>

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1998 Study	I 10	Work with Harvard to establish a planning process/timeline for addressing each of Harvard’s priority projects identified in their Capital Campaign.	The City discusses Harvard’s future capital planning priorities as part of the annual Town-Gown process, described above.
1998 Study	I 11	Consider examining the effects of Harvard housing more of its students (new net units) on neighborhood housing prices.	While studies have not been conducted to determine effects on housing prices, the City has established a policy of encouraging universities to provide on-campus student housing to relieve pressure on the private market. Harvard, MIT, and Lesley have all increased the amount of available on-campus student housing in the past decade.
1998 Study	I 12	Consider establishing public review for Harvard’s visitor parking program.	The parking availability and policies of universities, in general, is reviewed by the City on an ongoing basis. Universities are expected to make efforts to reduce the number of people traveling to their campuses in single-occupancy vehicles, and to encourage other forms of transportation such as walking, bicycling, public transit, and ride sharing.
1998 Study	I 13	Improve mechanisms for enforcement of construction agreements between Harvard University and neighborhoods - request the Joint Neighborhood-Harvard Committee examine ways to enforce these agreements.	Private agreements between neighborhoods and institutions are not enforceable if the City has not been a party to the agreement. Agreements may be enforceable by the city in some cases, for instance, if they are included in the conditions of a special permit, as part of a zoning requirement, or through a binding agreement made directly with the City.
1998 Study	I 14	Regarding Harvard University: Improve monitoring of compliance with City regulations/laws.	The City’s Inspectional Services Department ensures that the development and operation of land and buildings complies with city policies and ordinances. Complaints may be directed to Inspectional Services at 617-349-6100.
1998 Study	I 15	Explore ways in which residents can use Harvard shuttle services.	The general public may use the “m2” shuttle, connecting Harvard, MIT, and the Longwood Medical Area, for a fare.

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1998 Study	I 16	Regarding Harvard University: Maintain a viable transition between institutional uses and surrounding uses.	Zoning regulations have been adopted that institute transition requirements in some specific places around the Harvard campus. Also, projects of 50,000 square feet or more that are near a public right-of-way or include significant changes to parking must receive a project review special permit from the Planning Board, which takes into consideration impacts on surrounding uses.
1998 Study	I 17	Regarding Harvard University: Avoid excessive concentrations of impermanent institutional populations in dense urban settings, taking into account scale, concentration and mix weighed against the need for University to house affiliates.	Cambridge’s Citywide Growth Policy encourages universities to provide housing for their students, and universities have worked to increase the supply of student housing. In general, student populations tend to be concentrated on the campuses themselves, while students also reside in private housing distributed throughout Cambridge neighborhoods and in nearby cities and towns.
1998 Study	I 18	Keep the Cambridge Public Library in Mid-Cambridge.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> The new public library, which was developed as an expansion on its existing site, was completed in 2009.
1998 Study	I 19	Improve the maintenance of library grounds (e.g. picking up litter, snow removal).	Maintenance and snow removal are managed by the Department of Public Works, which works to improve its operations by having crews dedicated to specific tasks, by using contracted maintenance where appropriate, and by working with community members.
1998 Study	I 20	Explore ways to reduce derelicts hanging out near the library.	This type of issue is addressed by the City through different approaches, including urban design features (lighting, visibility) that discourage illicit activity, active engagement by the Cambridge Police Department, and support from public and private agencies that assist the homeless.
1998 Study	I 21	Publicize Cambridge Rindge and Latin School events to residents (e.g. plays, sporting events, etc.) as an opportunity to bridge gap and improve understanding between adults without children and teens.	Information about Cambridge Rindge and Latin School events is available on the web at <a href="http://www.cpsd.us/crls">www.cpsd.us/crls</a> . Also, the organization Cambridge School Volunteers ( <a href="http://www.csvinc.org">www.csvinc.org</a> ) provides opportunities for community members to work with youth through the schools.

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1998 Study	I 22	Advertise volunteer opportunities for wide range of interests. Request that School Department publish a wish list of the type of things volunteers could provide such as speakers for career days.	Information about volunteering at Cambridge Public Schools is available through Cambridge School Volunteers at <a href="http://www.csvinc.org">www.csvinc.org</a> .
1998 Study	I 23	Utilize Longfellow School as a good centralized location to base community meetings and programming. Consider additions to or improvements in space to address need for large meeting/auditorium facilities.	The former Longfellow School, which is now used temporarily as the site of the CRLS 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Campus, continues to host many community programs including the Longfellow Community School.
1998 Study	I 24	The Committee recommended that the ongoing process between the Cambridge Hospital and the MCNA should be the primary guide for working with the issues concerning the Cambridge Hospital expansion.	The Cambridge Hospital expansion, which is now complete, was guided by an agreement between the hospital and the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association.
1998 Study	I 25	Cambridge Handbook would improve residents' knowledge of institutions such as Youville and the services that they provide.	<i>The Cambridge Life: Magazine and City Resource Guide</i> , available on the City's website ( <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov">www.cambridgema.gov</a> ) and in print, includes information about health services in the city.
1998 Study	I 26	Plan for possible effects on the character/nature of Inman Square as The Cambridge Hospital expands its services and additional small doctor's offices move into the area.	The expansion of Cambridge Hospital has been completed, and there does not seem to have been a significant impact on the character of businesses in Inman Square.
1998 Study	I 27	Ensure that the agreement is enforced with The Cambridge Hospital and the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association, especially parking. Explore zoned parking (e.g., parking with time limits outside of home zone).	The expansion of the Cambridge Hospital has been completed according to the terms of its agreement with the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association. However, the City did not have a role in enforcing this agreement since it was not a party to the agreement.
1998 Study	I 28	Explore zoning which would prohibit the establishment of group medical practices in residential zones.	Private medical practices are not allowed in residential zoning districts, except in the case of small, home-based offices.
1998 Study	I 29	Address parking by users of City Hall - it becomes problematic on near-by residential streets. Establish a parking lot/shuttle system/trip reduction efforts to reduce parking needs of City employees.	The City works to reduce automobile use by employees by subsidizing public transit and encouraging other means of travel. Reduced-cost parking is available at the Green Street Garage for employees who do drive to work.

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Source	Rec#	Institution Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	I 30	City of Cambridge: Establish places for community use.	Many municipal facilities are available for use by the public, including parks and some indoor spaces in the new main library. In many cases space can be reserved for community events. Residents can also request that residential streets be closed temporarily for “block parties.”
1998 Study	I 31	Study the feasibility of making [the municipal office buildings at] 51 and/or 57 Inman Street into residential use, especially as uses change in City buildings.	Both of these buildings continue to be used for municipal offices.
1998 Study	I 32	Examine parking increase in new development at Cambridge College.	Through the Parking and Transportation Demand Management Ordinance, Cambridge College is required to monitor its parking demand and make efforts to reduce the number of visitors who drive as part of its lease of 80 Prospect Street.

Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 1	Consider establishing a Traffic and Transportation Problems group to meet monthly with the City Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department to review and prioritize parking, traffic and transportation problems in Mid-Cambridge.	Staff from the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department will meet with neighborhood groups by request to discuss any outstanding issues related to traffic or parking.
1998 Study	T 2	Have upcoming projects and updates on ongoing projects by DPW listed in the newspaper.	The Department of Public Works maintains a list and information about active construction projects on its website at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks">www.cambridgema.gov/theworks</a> .
1998 Study	T 3	Keep neighborhood informed on the progress of the Quincy Square improvements.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> The Quincy Square improvements were completed in spring, 1997.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 4	Work with Area Four to coordinate traffic and transportation issues on Prospect Street.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> A planning study of Prospect Street was conducted in 2007 by the Community Development Department. The Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department also conducted an analysis of traffic flow and made improvements to pavement markings and traffic signals. Full improvements to the sidewalks and roadway on Prospect Street were completed in 2010.
1998 Study	T 5	Request that MBTA post schedules of bus routes at bus stops.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> The MBTA now posts schedules at stops along major bus routes, such as the #1 route. The City also worked with the MBTA to post schedules along the #68 (Broadway) bus route. The MBTA has also made available real-time data to support online bus-tracking services such as NextBus.com.
1998 Study	T 6	Have snow emergency route maps available to the public.	The Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department website includes comprehensive information about snow emergencies, including a map and listing of snow emergency streets (where parking is prohibited during declared snow emergencies) and information about available garage parking during snow emergencies. Residents can also sign up for snow emergency alerts by e-mail or text message.
1998 Study	T 7	Work with the Department of Traffic and Transportation to identify abuses of Visitor Parking Permits, with specific attention to streets within close proximity to the Central and Harvard Square MBTA Redline Stations. Restricting hours of use, imposing time limits on use, and designating visitor parking spaces should be considered. Consider larger permits with a calendar on the permit for ease of enforcement.	The Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department is aware of the potential for abuse of visitor parking permits. Each household is allowed only one visitor permit, valid only within that household's neighborhood, and the rules about usage are strictly enforced. Selling visitor permits is prohibited and can result in revocation of city parking privileges. A calendar permit design was considered, but was not found to be effective.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 8	Address parking congestion problems associated with construction projects.	The Department of Public Works and the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department work with construction companies in permitting construction activity, requiring a construction mitigation plan and regular meetings with City staff to address potential issues.
1998 Study	T 9	Snow Emergency Parking: a. When the opportunity exists, establish alternative parking for snow emergencies – use parking structures as temporary parking sites. b. Consider providing snow emergency street maps. c. Consider a system for plowing streets like street cleaning.	As described above, the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department website includes comprehensive information about snow emergencies. Free parking is available in several public and private parking garages during snow emergencies, as listed on the website.
1998 Study	T 10	To reduce parking by commuters, consider parking sticker by zone which allows unlimited parking near place of residence, two-hour limit elsewhere in Cambridge.	A system of permitted resident parking by zone has been discussed, but the City has not pursued the adoption of such a system.
1998 Study	T 11	Institutional Parking a. Increase parking enforcement in neighborhood areas, especially in areas according to specific problem and time of day, e.g.: Extension School in the evening; Cambridge Hospital during the day. b. Continue to work with the Cambridge Hospital to prepare for traffic and parking problems inherent to its expansion plans, consistent with its agreement with the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association.	Parking enforcement personnel are assigned to specific routes throughout the city. The level of enforcement in a particular area can be adjusted if there are perceived problems or large numbers of complaints. To request enforcement, contact the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department at 617-349-4700.  The Cambridge Hospital expansion (discussed on page 8) has been completed.
1998 Study	T 12	Resident Parking a. Consider identifying areas of parking which may be able to allow resident parking at meters evenings and Sundays. b. Consider the creation of special parking districts for residents in those areas under intense parking pressure.	Metered spaces are located where parking turnover is needed during the day. Metered spaces are available for resident parking on nights and Sundays.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 13	Address parking problems for small business - consider informational brochure e.g., “Where to park in Cambridge”.	The City’s goal is to encourage residents and visitors to use non-automobile forms of transportation, such as walking, bicycling, and public transportation. The map <i>Getting Around in Cambridge</i> contains useful information to aid travel using different modes of transportation. The website of the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department also has maps and information about municipal parking garages and metered parking spaces.
1998 Study	T 14	Address pedestrian street crossing facilities at the following locations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Improve crosswalk striping at Massachusetts Avenue from Dana Street to Putnam Square.</li> <li>b. Increase visibility of pedestrian crossing at Bishop Allen Drive and Prospect Street. Consider light at Bishop Allen Drive to allow pedestrian crossings.</li> <li>c. Consider adding crosswalk across Broadway at Dana Street.</li> <li>d. Increase visibility of crosswalk across Broadway at Ellery.</li> <li>e. Consider adding a crosswalk across Cambridge Street at the Harvard Community Health Plan facility.</li> <li>f. Improve crosswalk striping in Inman Square at all corners.</li> <li>g. Improve narrow sidewalk on east side of Prospect Street.</li> <li>h. Improve safety for high school students crossing Cambridge Street and Broadway.</li> </ol>	<b>COMPLETED:</b> All of these recommended improvements have been completed, including the recent (2010) widening of the sidewalk on the east edge of Prospect Street between Massachusetts Avenue and Bishop Allen Drive.
1998 Study	T 15	When the opportunity exists, improve lighting on Inman Street between Harvard Street and Massachusetts Avenue. Trim trees to allow additional light to sidewalk and street level.	<b>UNDER CONSIDERATION:</b> A pilot program to install new LED street lighting is being considered for Inman Street. The Department of Public Works prunes street trees on an ongoing basis.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 16	Examine ways to reduce speed of vehicles and traffic volume on Inman Street.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> Improvements to Inman Street were made in 2002, resulting in a narrower road right-of-way and a widened shoulder to accommodate bicyclists. Further traffic calming improvements were not preferred by neighbors because they would reduce on-street parking.
1998 Study	T 17	Improve the condition of sidewalks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve sidewalk maintenance so that repair schedule is consistent with the type of traffic, the volume of traffic, the existence of trees, and type of paving materials. (Consider charting sidewalk condition.)</li> <li>Improve condition of Dana Street sidewalks.</li> <li>Improve enforcement of the snow removal ordinances.</li> </ol>	<p>The Department of Public Works maintains a Five-Year Street and Sidewalk Reconstruction Plan, updated on a regular basis, which tracks the condition of roads and sidewalks across the city and lists anticipated improvement projects. It is available on the web at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks">www.cambridgema.gov/theworks</a>.</p> <p>Snow removal ordinances are enforced with warnings and/or a \$50 per day fine. Uncleared sidewalks can be reported online or by phone at 617-349-4903.</p>
1998 Study	T 18	Increase bicycle safety through increased use of bicycle lanes and pathways with appropriate signage for autos, bicycles and pedestrians.	The City continually considers bicycle facilities – including travel lanes, pavement markings, signage and parking locations – as part of roadway improvement projects. Massachusetts Avenue, Broadway, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Trowbridge Street, Ellery Street, and Inman Street now include either bicycle lanes or, where space does not exist, wider shoulders to accommodate bicycle travel.
1998 Study	T 19	Provide information on bicycle safety.	Information about bicycle safety is provided on the City’s website and in the <i>Getting Around in Cambridge</i> map and brochure, which is distributed to over 15,000 households each year. The City has also introduced a public safety campaign, with posters in bus shelters illustrating safety tips for cyclists and drivers.
1998 Study	T 20	Enforce traffic laws for bicyclists, and motorists sharing the road with bicyclists.	The Cambridge Police Department enforces traffic laws, and can issue citations to cyclists as well as motorists.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 21	Provide more speed limit enforcement, post speeds more frequently.	The Cambridge Police Department enforces traffic speeds. Specific problem areas can be reported to the police Traffic Enforcement Unit at 617-349-4365.
1998 Study	T 22	Provide school zone sign on Fayette Street near Longfellow School.	There is a school zone surrounding the former Longfellow School, which is now used temporarily as part of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.
1998 Study	T 23	Examine ways to reduce speed of vehicles on Kirkland Street between Quincy and Beacon Streets.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> Improved crosswalks with zebra striping were installed on Kirkland Street in 2002.
1998 Study	T 24	Improve the safety at the Bread and Circus Market parking lot on Prospect Street - consider right turn only out of parking lot from 5 to 7 p.m.	The Whole Foods Market (formerly Bread and Circus) parking lot is private and not subject to city traffic enforcement. The owners may choose to hire a police detail to manage traffic. New lane markings on Prospect allow for easier left turns.
1998 Study	T 25	Discourage increased traffic volume on Harvard Street and restrict tour bus use.	Cambridge cannot legally restrict tour buses from Harvard Street, but discourages them from using that route.
1998 Study	T 26	Investigate the occurrences of vehicles backing down Bishop Allen from Inman to Prospect Street.	The frequency of this type of occurrence seems to have decreased in recent years.

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 27	<p>Address vehicular safety at the following intersections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Consider traffic light at Bishop Allen Drive and Prospect Street. Balance with safety concern of slowing traffic in close proximity to Mass. Ave.</li> <li>b. Improve left turn onto Massachusetts Avenue off Dana Street.</li> <li>c. Improve enforcement of left turn only and right turn only lanes at Massachusetts Avenue from Inman Street across to Pleasant Street.</li> <li>d. Improve merge/lane markings on Peabody Street between Massachusetts Avenue and Cambridge Street.</li> <li>e. Improve merge/lane markings on Massachusetts Avenue between Cambridge and Garden Streets.</li> <li>f. Clarify turning lanes/markings on Quincy between Broadway and Cambridge Street.</li> <li>g. Improve visibility of light at Dana and Harvard Streets. (e.g. prune trees on approaches, and/or add blinking light over street)</li> <li>h. Improve snow plowing on small streets.</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMPLETED:</b> A signal with pedestrian countdown signal was added at this location.</p> <p>Improving this left turn is not preferred because it would likely increase traffic levels on Dana Street. Enforcement of traffic regulations at this intersection are ongoing.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED:</b> Lane markings were repainted as part of improvements to intersections around Harvard Square.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED:</b> Lane markings have been repainted in this location.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED:</b> Markings were re-painted along Quincy Street at Cambridge Street and at Kirkland Street in 2005.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED:</b> On-street parking was restricted near the intersection to improve visibility. During snow events, clearance of major arterials is prioritized for the sake of emergency vehicles, then smaller streets.</p>
1998 Study	T 28	<p>Explore the use of shuttle services/ paratransit services and extend bus routes to improve accessibility to all parts of Cambridge. (e.g., City Circle Shuttle)</p>	<p>The City completed a Transportation Service Study in 2000 to explore possible transit service improvements. The study found that there was limited demand for additional shuttle routes, but more demand for improvements to existing MBTA service.</p> <p>The #68 bus route on Broadway was reinstated in 1998. The #69 route runs frequently (2-4 buses per hour) on weekdays. The EZRide shuttle service was also established to serve commuters in the Cambridgeport, Kendall Square, and East Cambridge areas.</p>

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Source	Rec#	Transportation Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	T 29	Increase public transportation service to Inman Square.	Inman Square is served by the #69 (Harvard-Lechmere), #83 (Central-Rindge Ave), and #91 (Central-Sullivan) bus routes. As part of the Cambridge Street improvements completed in 2005, new bus shelters and signage were installed.
1998 Study	T 30	Improve public transportation services for elderly or disabled persons. Transit routes should serve shopping/cultural areas throughout the city.	Cambridge offers an accessible taxi program, by which taxis can be called at 1-800-6161-ACT (1-800-616-1228). Cambridge also offers taxi discount coupons for seniors and persons with disabilities. More information is available by calling 617-349-6220. Other public transportation services for the elderly and disabled include The Ride (MBTA) and Door2Door transportation (SCM).
1998 Study	T 31	Provide a shuttle service or express bus route serving Harvard Square and the Back Bay of Boston.	The MBTA #1 bus route connects Harvard to Back Bay, as well as the MBTA rapid transit system (Red to Green Line).
1998 Study	T 32	Explore the possibility of an employee shuttle system for City employees and large, private businesses. The system could be shared and funded by both interests.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> The EZRide Shuttle system, created mainly for commuters working in Cambridge, began operating in 2002. The shuttle provides service to North Station, Lechmere, Kendall, the MIT campus, and Cambridgeport. The shuttle is free to employees of sponsoring companies, including City employees, and available to the general public for a fare.
1998 Study	T 33	Examine the truck management plan proposed by Harvard University as part of the expansion of Memorial Hall.	The Memorial Hall expansion is complete. The City reviews traffic management plans for all major construction projects.
1998 Study	T 34	Reduce traffic congestion on Inman Street at Massachusetts Avenue.	The City of Cambridge works to reduce traffic congestion citywide by encouraging residents and employees to switch to sustainable modes of transportation. Making changes to reduce congestion at this intersection could adversely impact pedestrian travel as well as traffic levels for nearby streets and intersections.

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Source	Rec#	Housing Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	H 1	Improve public information on housing repair and construction, including the permitting process, asbestos and lead removal safety.	The Community Development Department website at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/cdd">www.cambridgema.gov/cdd</a> has helpful information about home improvements and lead removal.
1998 Study	H 2	Work with realtors to establish improved house sale fact/information to prospective/new owner.	Information about Cambridge and its neighborhoods is available to realtors and prospective homeowners, including demographics and housing market data, and information about local services, programs, and culture. Most information is available on the web at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov">www.cambridgema.gov</a> .
1998 Study	H 3	Support diversity in access to affordable housing according to the Fair Housing Program: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Elderly persons.</li> <li>b. Handicapped persons.</li> <li>c. Families with children.</li> <li>d. Non-White populations.</li> </ol>	The Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust, which supports the creation and preservation of affordable housing in the city, develops and markets its units and programs openly and affirmatively to ensure that they are accessible to all segments of the public. Preference for larger units is given to families with children and preference for accessible units is given to households with disabled persons.
1998 Study	H 4	Establish a long-term plan for anticipated increase in the elderly population: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Examine and improve transportation services for the elderly. Support a combination of shuttle systems. Consider a subsidy program which would encourage taxi companies in the City to serve the elderly community more efficiently.</li> <li>b. Explore changes to building code to encourage new housing construction that is easily adaptable for elderly needs (e.g. wider doors, etc.).</li> <li>c. Consider better routine sidewalk maintenance and enforcement of the snow removal ordinance.</li> <li>d. Examine transportation and services for elderly and building to elderly standards when renovating or constructing new housing, even if voluntary, as part of long term plan.</li> </ol>	<p><b>PLANNING IN PROGRESS:</b> The Community Development Department is currently undertaking a study of “Aging in the Cambridge Community,” in cooperation with the Department of Human Service Programs and the Council on Aging. This study is looking at housing and lifestyle options for seniors who wish to remain in Cambridge as they age.</p> <p>Efforts to improve sidewalk conditions and the availability of transportation for seniors and people with disabilities are ongoing by various city departments.</p>

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Source	Rec#	Housing Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	H 5	Explore property tax abatements for landlords renting to lower-income households to improve access to affordable housing for low-income households.	While property tax abatements are not offered, the City offers home improvement financing programs and other financial incentives to property owners who keep their units affordable to low or moderate income households.
1998 Study	H 6	Consider affordable housing development in the form of artist lofts with private spaces or bedrooms with communal recreation/TV room, bathroom and showers, and kitchen.	There are currently no affordable housing projects using an artist loft or live-work model. The City’s current priority is to provide affordable housing units that are appropriate for families with children.
1998 Study	H 7	Encourage owner occupancy. Continue affordable housing repair programs such as the HIP Program.	The Home Improvement Program (HIP), which provides low-interest and deferred financing to eligible homeowners, is ongoing. The Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust also funds the creation of new affordable homeownership units.
1998 Study	H 8	Rental Housing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider establishing a rental clearinghouse for low and moderate income people similar to Harvard’s “waiting list” for rent-controlled units (e.g., by matching units to those on the Cambridge Housing Authority waiting list).</li> <li>Request that Harvard (and other major/ or all landlords) allocate a percentage or give priority to their rental units for low to moderate-income households.</li> <li>Encourage tenants to pool resources for housing opportunities.</li> <li>Provide information and financial assistance for first-time-buying groups.</li> </ol>	<p>The Community Development Department maintains a list of households interested in obtaining affordable housing as well as applicant pools from which households are selected for rental and homeownership units made available by CDD. These are separate from the lists maintained by the Cambridge Housing Authority for the Housing Choice Voucher and public housing programs.</p> <p>Cambridge’s Inclusionary Zoning ordinance requires that developers of large new housing projects set aside units for low-to-moderate income households, in exchange for a bonus in the amount of development allowed under base zoning.</p> <p>The City offers free first-time homebuyer classes and up to \$130,000 in financial assistance to eligible homebuyers. Information about the City’s housing programs is available by calling 617-349-4622.</p>

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Source	Rec#	Housing Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	H 9	Consider issues of excess infill (construction which causes significant neighborhood loss of open space) when new housing construction is planned. Support requirement for minimum open space through zoning.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> Issues of excess infill and required open space were addressed in the “Backyard Rezoning” of 1999, described in the “Land Use and Zoning” section (page 16).
1998 Study	H 10	Support multi-family rehabilitation programs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small Property Owners Program.</li> <li>Cambridge Neighborhood Apartment Housing Services loan programs.</li> <li>De-leading programs.</li> </ol>	The Home Improvement Program and the CNAHS multi-family rehab program are ongoing with continued support from the City. The City’s website also contains resources and information about de-leading programs offered through the state – see <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/hsg">www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/hsg</a> .
1998 Study	H 11	Support affordable rental and non-profit ownership development.	The Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust supports the development of affordable rental and homeownership units. Since 1995, the trust has helped to create or preserve over 3,025 units.
1998 Study	H 12	Support affordable housing programs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited equity housing.</li> <li>Conversion of existing buildings or construction of new buildings.</li> <li>Financial assistance for first-time-buyers.</li> </ol>	The Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust supports the development of owner-occupied units with affordability restrictions, which require that owners sell units to other income-eligible buyers at an affordable price. New affordable units are created through new construction and conversion projects. Up to \$130,000 in City financial assistance is also available to income-eligible first-time homebuyers.
1998 Study	H 13	Increase City facilitated housing services: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First-time-buyer classes.</li> <li>Access to affordable housing.</li> <li>Tenant ownership.</li> <li>Home ownership.</li> </ol>	The City offers a variety of assistance to low, moderate, and middle income households seeking affordable housing made available by the City or on the private market, including free first-time homebuyer classes, other specialized homebuyer classes, and one-on-one consulting. The City also maintains a pool of ready buyers for affordable homeownership units. For information, visit <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/hsg">www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/hsg</a> or call 617-349-4622.

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Source	Rec#	Economic Development Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	ED 1	<p>Economic and employment development should be as much as possible accomplished without creating new traffic and parking problems.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve truck policy to restrict truck traffic on interior neighborhood streets;</li> <li>Improve truck policy so that economic development does not necessarily mean more truck traffic;</li> <li>Consider requiring development to provide own parking/other mitigation to offset parking pressure on neighborhood streets.</li> </ol>	<p>The City has adopted a Parking and Transportation Demand Management (PTDM) Ordinance with the goal of limiting the traffic and parking impacts of new commercial development. New businesses or developers seeking to add parking spaces must complete a PTDM Plan demonstrating how they will reduce the number of peak-hour single-occupancy vehicle trips made into Cambridge. For instance, businesses may use financial or other incentives for employees to walk, bicycle, use public transportation or carpool. Business owners subject to PTDM must report annually on their progress toward achieving single-occupancy vehicle trip reductions. In addition, the City enforces bans on truck traffic on designated residential streets.</p>
1998 Study	ED 2	<p>Establish minimum standards of operation for developments in neighborhood areas which addresses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Garbage pickup;</li> <li>Short term parking;</li> <li>Hours of operation;</li> <li>Size of store</li> </ol>	<p>The Cambridge License Commission enforces garbage collection and hours of operation standards for private businesses, and can place any reasonable restriction on a business that requires a license. The Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department enforces standards for on-street parking. Standards for required off-street parking and limitations on the size of commercial spaces are established in the zoning ordinance.</p>
1998 Study	ED 3	<p>Institutions should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institute small job training programs for jobs they know they can offer;</li> <li>Create in-High School training programs for those jobs;</li> <li>Conduct training for jobs as part of a public service program;</li> <li>Create a liaison from institutions to job service;</li> <li>Maintain an outreach program for those with handicaps or mental illness, e.g. supermarket jobs.</li> </ol>	<p>The City’s Office of Workforce Development, which includes the Cambridge Employment Center, is a resource for residents of all backgrounds and levels of ability who are seeking employment or job training opportunities.</p> <p>In addition, the Economic Development Division of the Community Development Department supports the Just-A-Start Biomedical Careers Program, an educational program to prepare adults for entry-level support jobs in the biomedical field. The City provides funding for residents meeting certain income guidelines.</p>

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Source	Rec#	Economic Development Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	ED 4	<p>Examine ways to increase support for home-based businesses/small entrepreneurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Consider a program on splitting resources (e.g. sharing employees, equipment).</li> <li>b. Examine the benefits of shared resources over neighborhood lines.</li> <li>c. Consider conducting a survey to home based businesses to find out about needs, number and type.</li> <li>d. Streamline zoning to help home-based businesses.</li> <li>e. Consider establishing a home-based business center.</li> </ul>	<p>The City’s Economic Development Division offers a range of services to small business owners, including workshops on topics such as financial literacy, one-on-one consulting, grant programs and design assistance for renovating business interiors or exteriors, and site-finder services to match prospective business owners with available space. Economic Development staff also conduct regular surveys of businesses to assess what types of programs are needed. Information is available in the brochure <i>Doing Business in Cambridge</i> and on the web at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/ed">www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/ed</a>.</p>
1998 Study	ED 5	<p>Consider increasing support for neighborhood scale/small business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Monitor small business coming and going.</li> <li>b. Establish a quick response on business leaving/disaster (e.g. Savenours).</li> <li>c. Encourage appropriate small business activity in small areas, (e.g. tables and chairs in commercial areas, outside at 1000 Mass. Ave. and Bay Square).</li> <li>d. Consider allowing pushcarts as part of the retail mix.</li> <li>e. Make a distinction in the liquor license cap between restaurants and bars (i.e. allow more restaurant beer and wine licenses without allowing more bars).</li> <li>f. Address parking issues for small businesses (e.g., booklet “Where can you park in Cambridge?”).</li> </ul>	<p>The City’s Economic Development Division offers a range of services to small business owners (described above). Where possible, Economic Development staff monitor vacancies in the commercial market, communicate with business owners wishing to start a new business or move their business to Cambridge, and collect information about what types of businesses are desired by neighborhood residents. This allows staff to help direct prospective business owners to suitable and attractive locations.</p> <p>The City also seeks opportunities to add outdoor furniture and other amenities to encourage appropriate outdoor activity in commercial areas. The recent completion of a new plaza at Lafayette Square is an example of this effort.</p> <p>Liquor licenses are regulated by the Cambridge License Commission, with applications considered on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Transportation resources related to small businesses are discussed in the “Transportation” section (page 12).</p>

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Source	Rec#	Economic Development Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	ED 6	<p>Inman Square:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Work with landlords to create more neighborhood service businesses.</li> <li>b. Improve bus service to the square (e.g. make the #69 bus more frequent all day).</li> <li>c. Continue work on implementing the recommendations of the Inman Square Task Force for improvements to Inman Square.</li> </ul>	<p>The programs offered by the City’s Economic Development Division (described above) support local businesses that serve neighborhood residents and the local economy. Staff work directly with business owners as well as landlords.</p> <p>The MBTA #69 bus runs with a frequency of about 2 to 4 buses per hour, with a slightly lower frequency on Sundays.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED:</b> Improvements to Inman Square were completed with the Cambridge Street reconstruction in 2005.</p>
1998 Study	ED 7	<p>Central Square:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Continue increased Mid-Cambridge involvement with Central Square issues.</li> <li>b. Mitigate perception of crime problem with increased employment, recreation and parks.</li> <li>c. Revisit City policy differences with other areas (e.g., street performers allowed in Harvard Square, no street performers allowed in Central Square).</li> <li>d. Continue work with neighborhood on specific issues (e.g., liquor store - later opening, less nips and cheap wine).</li> <li>e. Continue working with the Central Square Advisory Committee on recommendations for Central Square.</li> </ul>	<p>Mid-Cambridge residents have continually been involved in planning for Central Square, including the Central Square Design Committee, which created a master plan for improvements that were completed in 1997.</p> <p>The Cambridge Police Department addresses crime in neighborhoods through a community policing program, which relies on an overall strategy of partnerships and problem-solving with the community. There are police staff dedicated to issues in Central Square.</p> <p>Store hours and liquor licenses are regulated by the License Commission. Street performers are licensed by the Cambridge Arts Council under the Cambridge Street Performer Ordinance. Some street performers operate in Central Square.</p> <p>The Central Square Advisory Committee continues to conduct advisory project review for development in the Central Square Overlay District.</p>

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Source	Rec#	Open Space Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	OS 1	Increase publicity by the School Department and the Department of Human Services on programs: Publicize CRLS and War Memorial Pool activities to increase use by neighborhood residents.	Programs at the War Memorial facility are open to all Cambridge residents. The Department of Human Service Programs publishes a seasonal <i>Cambridge Recreation</i> brochure, and information and registration are available on the web at <a href="http://www.cambridgema.gov/dhsp/war.cfm">www.cambridgema.gov/dhsp/war.cfm</a> .
1998 Study	OS 2	Improve communication between the neighborhood and the City regarding problems with park use and/or design (e.g., basketball court at Paine Park causing problems for neighbors).	Issues with the maintenance or operation of parks should be reported to the Department of Public Works, Parks and Forestry Division, at 617-349-4885. Any illicit activity, such as after-hours use or vandalism in progress, should be reported to the Cambridge Police at 617-349-3300.
1998 Study	OS 3	Consider an inventory of total open space in Mid-Cambridge including private open space, to enable both better park and open space planning and possible acquisition of new open space.	Cambridge’s Open Space and Recreation Plan (last updated in 2009) includes an inventory of all major public and private open space in the city. With the exception of Harvard University property, there is no significant private open space in Mid-Cambridge.
1998 Study	OS 4	Renovate and improve Library Park Tot Lot: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address safety concerns.</li> <li>Install play equipment that maintains kids’ interest.</li> <li>Use Cambridge Common park as a model.</li> <li>Possibly enlarge.</li> </ol>	<b>COMPLETED:</b> The Library Tot Lot was renovated as part of the library expansion project, completed in 2009.
1998 Study	OS 5	Renovate Cooper Playground (Hancock Street).	Cooper Park was most recently renovated in 1997 (during the time of the original neighborhood study).
1998 Study	OS 6	Replace dangerous equipment in Maple Avenue tot lot (i.e., metal horses on springs).	<b>COMPLETED:</b> Maple Avenue Park was renovated in 2004.
1998 Study	OS 7	Use Science Center’s stone fountain as a model for open space ideas that are attractive to all people and ages.	Cambridge’s Healthy Parks and Playgrounds Task Force (2009) recommended incorporating more natural features into parks and playgrounds and including features that are engaging to a range of different age groups. The recommendations of this group will be incorporated into future park development.

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 1998 Neighborhood Study Recommendations with Progress and Status

Source	Rec#	Open Space Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	OS 8	Install water facilities for play and cooling where possible/feasible: a. Lee Street Park. b. Paine Playground.	<b>COMPLETED:</b> Water play was installed when Paine Park was renovated in 2002. There are now 26 parks in the city with water play features.
1998 Study	OS 9	Support community gardens. (Although there are not any in the neighborhood, empty lots should be identified as possible site for such gardens.) Improve use of existing City land in parks, vacant lots, etc., to integrate into city park.	<b>UNDER CONSIDERATION:</b> The City is exploring possibilities to expand the number of community gardening locations in Cambridge.
1998 Study	OS 10	Install artwork in parks where possible. (Support the City’s 1% for art program).	Public art is included in new municipal projects (including parks) as part of the “percent for art” program.
1998 Study	OS 11	Support performances or activities in parks for adults during afternoons and evenings.	A number of groups sponsor activities for adults in parks, such as adult recreational sports or games. Parks are also used as settings for arts and theater performances for children and adults alike. Groups can request use of parks by contacting the Department of Public Works, where staff can discuss the necessary permitting requirements. Playing field space can be requested by contacting the Recreation office in the Department of Human Service Programs.
1998 Study	OS 12	Provide for more multiple use spaces (e.g., parking garage as concert space or tennis court).	While the logistics of multiple-use spaces are challenging, there are some successful examples, such as the weekly Central Square Farmers Market (located in a municipal parking lot) and the annual Cambridge Dance Party, which takes place on Massachusetts Avenue outside City Hall. Groups that wanted to propose concerts or other events in city spaces, such as parks, streets, or parking lots, can discuss their proposals with the city’s Special Events Committee.

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1998 Study	OS 13	When possible create “pocket-parks”: a. Seek land for acquisition. b. Sidewalk benches/sitting areas.	<b>COMPLETED AND ONGOING:</b> The City seeks opportunities to create improved sitting areas or landscaped areas throughout Cambridge. Some examples of improved “pocket parks” in Mid-Cambridge include Quincy Square, Monagle Plaza (adjacent to the city offices at 344 Broadway), and Velucci Plaza in Inman Square. New benches have also been installed along Cambridge Street.
1998 Study	OS 14	Encourage private developers to create open spaces that are accessible by the public.	Developers of large, multi-building projects are encouraged (and in some cases required by zoning) to include publicly-accessible open space. However, there are few large development areas of this type in Mid-Cambridge, with the possible exception of the Harvard University campus.
1998 Study	OS 15	Examine the feasibility of providing a park for the Longfellow School.	The Longfellow School is being used temporarily as part of the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School while its campus is undergoing renovation. However, the Green Ribbon Study (2000) identifies the area near the school as a priority for a neighborhood park.
1998 Study	OS 16	Increase park maintenance and coordination of functions.	The Department of Public Works continues to make efforts to improve maintenance of city parks through dedicated sector maintenance crews, specialized staff positions, and contracted professional support where appropriate.

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Source	Rec#	Open Space Recommendations	Progress and Status
1998 Study	OS 17	<p>Work with the existing Mid-Cambridge City Park Committee to consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve the “openness” of field to accommodate lounging, relaxing, sunning.</li> <li>Encourage use by all ages, maintain a passive sitting area atmosphere.</li> <li>Consider the installation of seating to better serve the elderly population and encourage extended use of the park in inclement weather.</li> <li>Consider performances or activities for adults during afternoons and evenings, consistent with park regulations.</li> <li>Explore the possibility for a facility for outside performances that would not encroach onto the field, possibly a gazebo or bandshell.</li> <li>Consider supplementing existing plantings and professional horticultural maintenance for all plantings.</li> </ol>	<p><b>COMPLETED:</b> Renovations were made to Joan Lorentz Park as part of the expansion of the Cambridge Public Library in 2009. The space remains open for primarily passive use, and includes new seating. While there are no programmed activities in the park, community groups can use the park for special events with permission from the City. Plantings are maintained by Department of Public Works staff, supplemented where appropriate by professional landscaping contractors.</p>
1998 Study	OS 18	<p>Consider the Charles River as a source of recreation or relaxation for Mid-Cambridge residents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase public programming and publicity for recreation and access to the river itself.</li> <li>Expand MDC and City programming and publicity for recreation along the Cambridge side of the Charles River, including boating and canoeing.</li> <li>Develop programs that invite the public to use the river, and/or increase public awareness of existing programs.</li> </ol>	<p><b>PLANNING IN PROGRESS:</b> The Community Development Department is currently undertaking a study of the Charles Riverfront to recommend ways that it could be more welcoming for community use. Any new facilities, programs or activities would require approval from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, which manages the riverfront parklands and Memorial Drive.</p>
1998 Study	OS 19	<p>Add softer play surfaces in some area of Cooper Park.</p>	<p><b>COMPLETED:</b> Rubberized play surfacing was added to Cooper Park in 1998.</p>
1998 Study	OS 20	<p>Follow recommendations of Inman Square Task Force on improvements for Vellucci Plaza.</p>	<p><b>COMPLETED:</b> Renovations to Velucci Plaza were completed in 2005 with the reconstruction of Cambridge Street.</p>