

Cambridge City Planning Documents

Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Collection ID: CHC038

Provenance: Multiple sources, mainly from the Cambridge Community Development Department, Cambridge Planning Board, and the Office of the Mayor of Cambridge

Dates: 1945-2003 (bulk)

Extent: 7 Hollinger boxes, currently located at the Cambridge Room, CPL

Processing and finding aid by: Processed and inventoried by Steve Kaiser under the supervision of Emily Gonzalez, CHC Archivist, Summer-Winter 2018. Finding aid by Emily Gonzalez, February 2019.

Access: Collection is available for research under the CHC rules of use.

Collection Description:

This collection contains reports, booklets, correspondence, ephemera, and other documents pertaining to city planning and development in Cambridge. Most of the documents were created by City of Cambridge departments such as Cambridge Community Development (CDD) and the Cambridge Planning Board (including when it was the Planning Department). Some documents related to planning and development, such as RFPs or plans, may have been created by outside private agencies or other city governments.

The documents cover topics such as zoning, urban renewal, post-war Cambridge and the “City Plan” of 1958 and 1966 (never fully published), population and housing, planning and district studies for various Cambridge neighborhoods including Central Square, East Cambridge, and Harvard Square, transportation – roads and the MBTA, Fresh Pond Master Plan, parks, adaptive reuse of areas including the former City Dump (now Danehy Park), social characteristics of Cambridge, environmental plans, and other city planning projects and reports. The collection also contains a few project folders created by CDD Staff in the 1980s. Most of the documents cover the period between 1970 and 1990.

The materials were organized by topic and date within the 7 boxes, and several duplicates were removed. The inventory lists the documents by box number.

Box Listing:

See attached inventory.