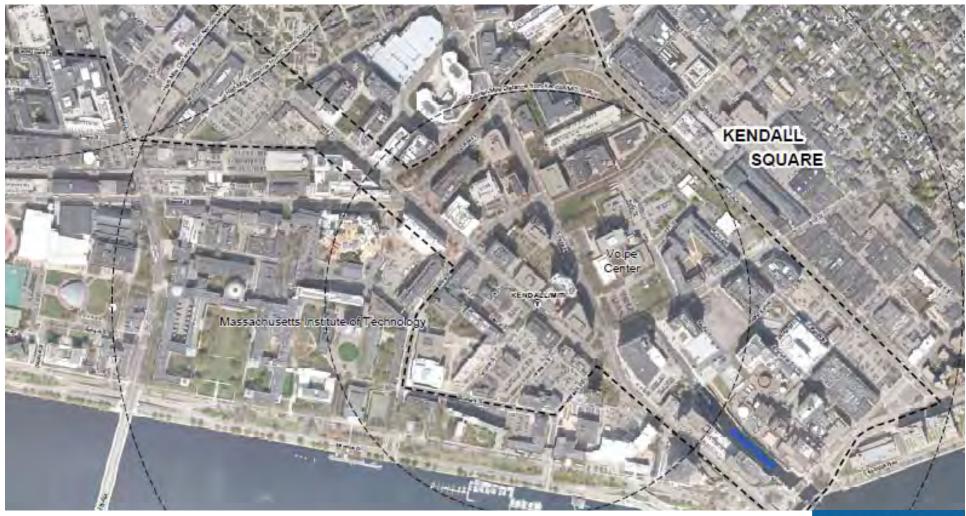
# PUD-KS (Volpe Site) Rezoning November 12, 2015



**Community Development Department** 

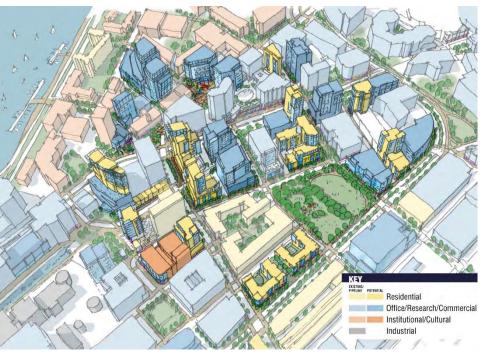


# **Vision for Kendall Square**

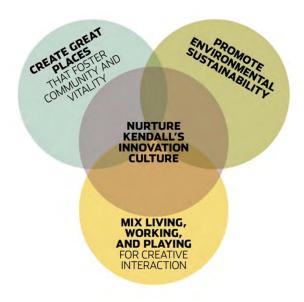
"A dynamic **public realm** connecting diverse choices for **living**, **working**, **learning**, and **playing** to inspire continued success of Cambridge's **sustainable**, **globally-significant** innovation community."



ECPT Planning Vision (CBT Architects + Planners)

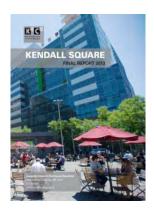


K2 Planning Vision (Goody Clancy)



# **Benefits of PUD-KS Zoning Proposal (as Modified)**

Housing	<ul> <li>1,000 units minimum (approx.)</li> <li>150 affordable, 50 middle-income (approx.)</li> <li>\$20+ million in total incentive zoning payments</li> </ul>
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Sustainability	<ul> <li>LEED Gold + energy, stormwater requirements</li> <li>Additional requirements from Net Zero Plan</li> </ul>
Community Funds	\$16+ million total for open space programming, transit improvements, workforce readiness
Urban Design	<ul> <li>General K2 Design Guidelines</li> <li>Site-Specific PUD-KS Urban Design Framework</li> </ul>



*K2 Study Process 2011 – 2012* 



ECPT/CBT Plan



Connect Kendall Sq Competition

2011

2012

2013

#### **K2 Study**

20-person Advisory Committee --residents,
 businesses, property owners/developers, MIT,
 Kendall Square Association, CRA

Multidisciplinary consultants -- Goody Clancy

 18 committee meetings, 5 public meetings/working sessions/site tours

City Council roundtable

PUD-KS Proposal developed with discussions at Planning Board

PUD-KS Petition Filed by Planning Board Ordinance Committee/Planning Board Public Hearings

**Volpe Site Community Outreach (summer/fall)** 

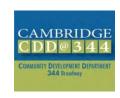
PUD-KS Refiled – August 2015 Petition Hearings (ongoing)

2014





# **2015 Community outreach**









#### **Seven drop-in conversations**

- 1. July 30<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm at Clement Morgan Park
- 2. Aug 5<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm at Rogers Street Park
- 3. Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, 11am-2pm at Lafayette Square
- 4. Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, 2-5 pm at Greene Rose Park
- 5. Aug 20<sup>th</sup>, 11am-2pm at Kendall Square Farmers' Market
- 6. Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 11am-4pm at The Pride Day
- 7. Sept 18<sup>th</sup>, 9am-4pm at The Parking Day

#### Sit-down forum

Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 12pm Kennedy-Longfellow School

#### Other meetings

Area 4, ECPT

# **Council comments - Joint Hearing June 29, 2015**



#### Housing

- Proportion of housing
- Affordable housing (low-mod, mid)
- Housing for families

#### **Ground floor uses and activities**

- Family-friendly restaurants
- Low-price supermarket
- Ground floor retail needs more specificity
- Affordable retail & locally-owned
- Retail to attract people
- Workforce development needs
- Incubator space
- Daycare

#### **Other**

- Cost and size of Volpe building & site
- FAR of 4.5 is dense
- Transportation traffic impacts, red line
- Development feasibility
- Have community conversation

#### Open space & public realm

- Needs to be very special
- Building facades matter
- Need family-friendly open spaces
- Maximize sunlight & livability
- Contiguous one primary, a secondary
- Visibility from different vantage points
- Programming
- No gates, needs to face streets
- Welcoming to the neighborhoods
- Engaging & educational indoor & outdoor
- Civic, not corporate space medieval plaza
- Accessibility of federally-owned open space

#### **Built form**

- Composition of buildings respect each other, especially at the lower level
- Floor plate sizes important
- Don't wall off site
- 2 setbacks instead of just one
- Design guidelines need more detail

# Planning Board comments – June 29 & July 14, 2015



#### Land use

- Supporting high-tech & innovation is most important goal for site
- Proportion of housing versus commercial/office space
- Affordable housing (low-mod, middle)
- Housing for families (3 beds)

#### **Ground floor uses and activities**

- Retail where it is going to be located, and what sort of retail it is going to be
- Design guidelines can include retail

#### Other

- Need financial analysis
- FAR of 4.5 is a lot of sqf to assemble across the site
- Transit impacts

#### Open space and public realm

- Amount of open space
- Connections are the key for open space
- Connect Kendall shows how to make space function without 5-acre park – it's not the right location for such a large park
- Extend the canal and create more connections through the site

#### Built form & urban design

- Where taller buildings should be located & whether there's a limitation on that area in which they can be located
- Need human-scale
- Need vision for creating a great space
- Broadway & Third St intersection is important
- Variation in height
- Concentrate on people who live and work there & neighborhoods
- Allowing more height for the residential

# **Community comments**

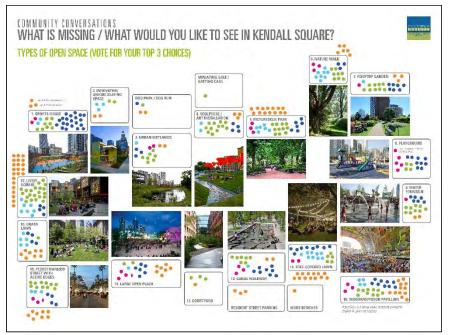


## **Soliciting community feedback**

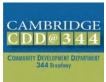
*Preferred ground floor uses and amenities* 

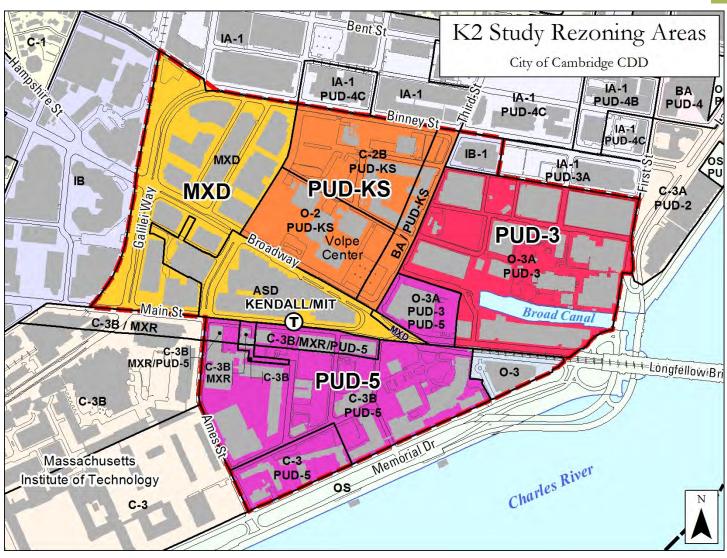


#### Preferred types of open spaces



# **Zoning**





# **Major Proposed Modifications**



## Affordable Housing Requirements

15% low-moderate + 5% middle income minimum

#### Open Space

Detailing desired open space functions

Limiting how much of the requirement can be met on a Federal site

## Height

More flexibility in arrangement, limiting bulk at taller elevations

#### Active Uses

More desired ground floor uses including grocery stores, family-serving uses, small independent operators; limitations on banks

## Urban Design

Urban Design Framework to inform future development review

# **Modifications: Affordable Housing**





APPROXIMATE	<b>Current Zoning</b>	Initial Proposal	Modifications
Total Units	879	1,014	1,014
Low-Moderate Units	101	101	152
Middle Income Units	None required	51	51
Total Affordable Units	101	152	203

# **Modifications: Public Open Space**

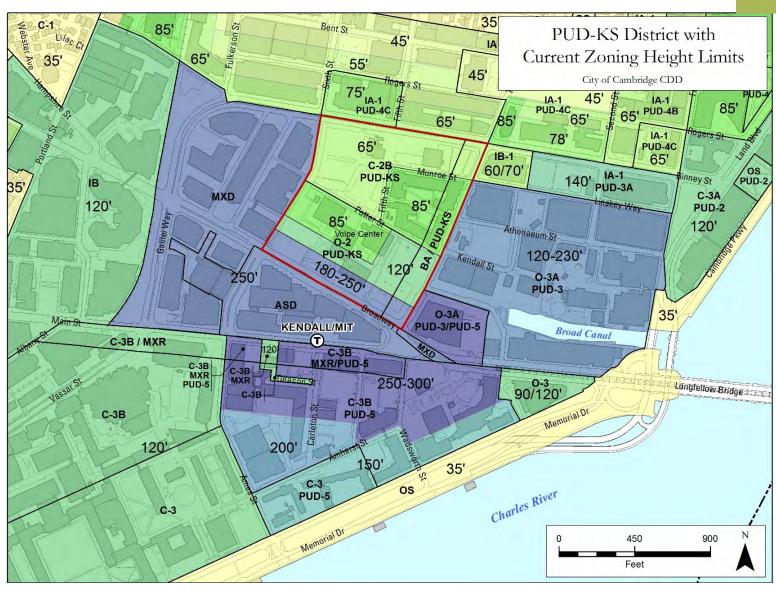


- System: All spaces must serve a public function, integrate with the area's open space network
- Civic park or plaza: Required element of the public open space system
- Federal site: Fulfills no more than half of requirement



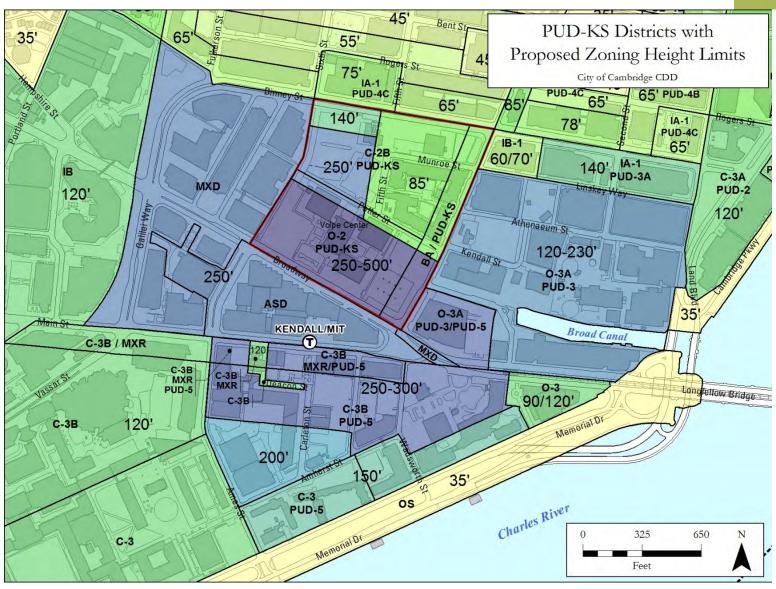
# **Height Limits: Current**





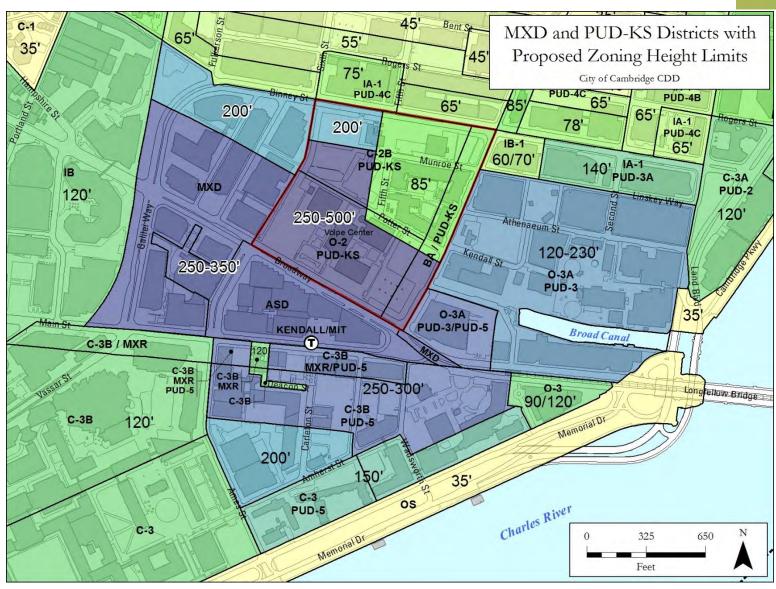
# **Height Limits: Initial Petition**



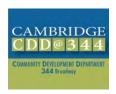


# **Height Limits: Proposed Modifications**





# **Height Limits: Proposed Modifications**

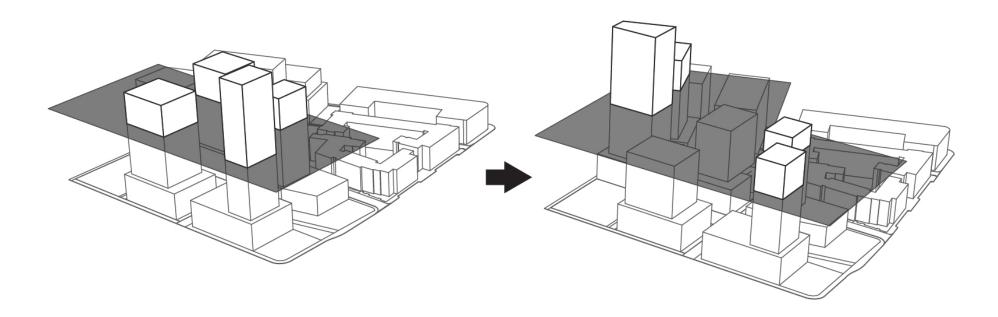


#### Above 250 feet:

No more than 15,000 SF floor plate No more than 10% of parcel area total (62,000 SF)

## Above 350 feet:

No more than one building as a distinctive landmark Planning Board can reject a proposal if it does not provide the desired benefit, in favor of a plan with a 350-foot limit



# **Modifications: Active Ground Floors**





- Required: 75% of frontage along major streets
- Incentivized: spaces of 5,000 square feet or less
- Active Uses Must Include: grocery, market, general store space for small operators (2,500 square feet or less)
- Active Uses May Include: child care, recreation, education and cultural uses for families
- Active Uses May Not Include: banks, office lobbies

# **Volpe Site: Anticipated Development**

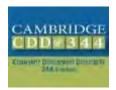


	Current Zoning	Proposed Zoning
Site Area	620,000	620,000
Residential	967,000 (min)	1,116,000 (min)
Office / Lab (not including Innovation Space)	1,086,000 (max)	1,632,000 (max)
Retail	50,000	140,000
Innovation Space (min)	0	84,000
Total Private Development	2,103,000	2,972,000
Volpe Facility (replacement)	375,000 (exist.)	375,000 (approx.)

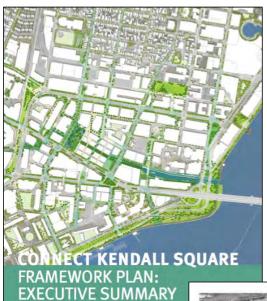
Figures in Square Feet of Gross Floor Area. ALL FIGURES APPROXIMATE

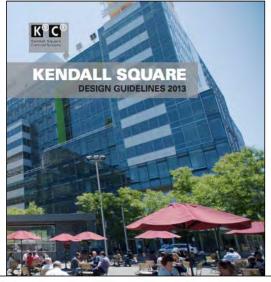
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Transportation	Cap on total parking
Sustainability	<ul> <li>LEED Gold + energy, stormwater requirements</li> <li>Additional requirements from Net Zero Plan</li> </ul>
Community Funds	• \$16+ million total for open space programming, transit improvements, workforce readiness
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## **Background materials**





# VOLPE SITE REZONING COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS The City is considering a zoning change that would guide the transformation of 14 acres in the heart of Kendall Square. Join us in discussing this proposal!

#### **Purpose**

- Visually represent the City's and the community's key goals and aspirations for the site
- 2. Inform the City's review process for development projects
- 3. Identify key principles, concepts, and ideas





#### Vision – Volpe site

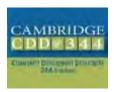
- An accessible, diverse and unique place that integrates the PUD-KS district seamlessly into the surrounding urban fabric of Kendall Square and the Eastern Cambridge neighborhoods, and the community.
- A place that is defined by high quality sustainable architecture, urban design and open space with an enduring sense of place that celebrates Kendall Square's spirit of innovation and creativity.

#### Framework structure

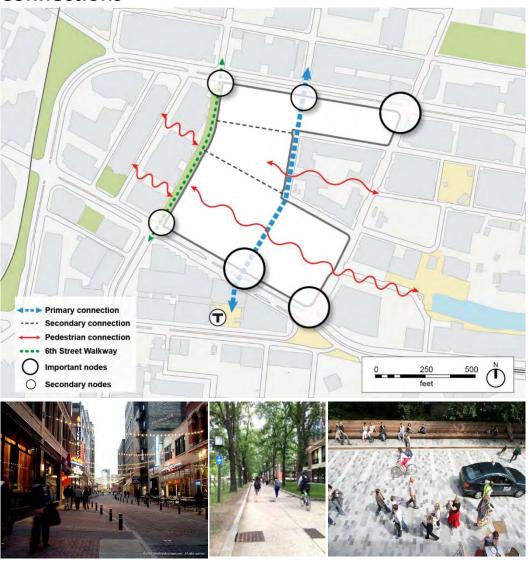
- 1. Connections
- 2. Open space
- 3. Active ground floors
- 4. Housing for families





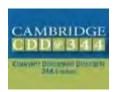


#### **Connections**



## Main organizing features

- Extend surrounding streets and connections into the site (e.g., Fifth Street and Broad Canal Way)
- 2. Enhancement of the Sixth Street Walkway
- 3. Provision of different types of connections (e.g., shared streets, multi-modal streets, bike lanes, mid-block connections, alleys etc.)

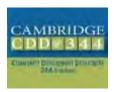


## **Open space**

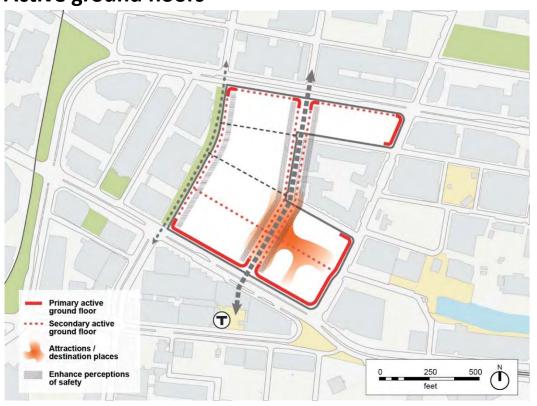


## Main organizing features

- Network of open space areas organized along the extension of Fifth Street and/or Broad Canal Way
- 2. The corner of Broadway and Third Street as a gateway
- 3. A balanced mix of lively gathering spaces and more naturalistic, passive parks



## **Active ground floors**

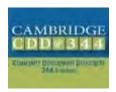


# Main organizing features

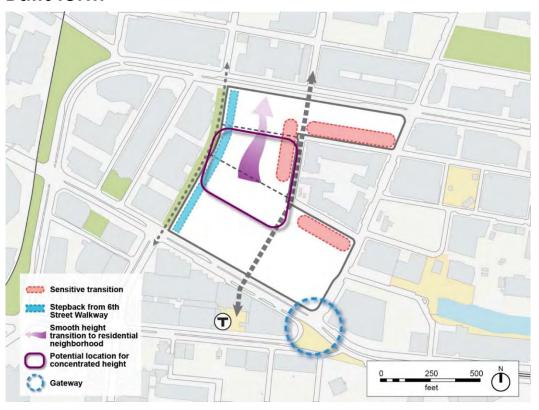
- Creating a hierarchy of streets with different activity levels
- Concentration of destination type activities







#### **Built form**



## Main organizing features

 areas and interfaces that require careful and sensitive transition to the surrounding environment

Also includes matters the Planning Board should consider when determining if a tall building is a "distinctive architectural landmark"



# **Housing for families**



 Design objectives and guidelines to address key siting and design issues relating to housing for families with children.





