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Lopez, Donna

From: Hunter Aldrich [hunteraldrich@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 06, 2014 12:57 PM
To: City Council; Lopez, Donna
Subject: Carlone-Mazen-Simmons Master Plan Initiative (Policy Order #14)

Dear City Council Members:

Thanks to Councilors Dennis Carlone, Nadeem Mazen, and Denise Simmons for bringing forth Policy Order #14 calling for a Master Plan process for any future residential and commercial development in the city of Cambridge.

The Carlone-Mazen-Simmons policy order goes further toward ensuring a more democratic and comprehensive process than policy order sponsored by Mayor David Maher, Vice Mayor Dennis Benzan, and Councillor Marc McGovern. It places our elected City Council at the helm and gives residents the voice in the planning process for future development of OUR city.

TO BE CLEAR there is growing public concern about the planning process and impact that the recent surge in development is having on the quality of life in the City of Cambridge. Traffic congestion, housing affordability, social equity, pedestrian/bike safety, the degradation of the city environment, and decrease of open spaces in the City are problems that flawed planning, runaway development, and rogue developers have inflicted on us and the City of Cambridge.

We, the residents of the city of Cambridge and neighborhood groups, are demanding – and deserve – a MORATORIUM on all future development until we have an inclusive citywide discussion about the pace, scope, and nature of any future development in this city.

A Master Plan should be developed with FULL PARTICIPATION and informed by the NEEDS and INTERESTS of the residents that live here.

Residents concerned about undemocratic development process demand that the future Master Plan squarely addresses the displacement and gentrification of past and future development, the enhancement of open spaces and the preservation the fragile Fresh Pond ecosystem, pedestrian/bicycle safety, traffic congestion, climate change, and all other issues that current residents deem to be important.

Thank you for your attention to this matter of great importance for the residents of the City of Cambridge.

Sincerely,

Hunter Aldrich

Holly Aldrich

1 and 1a Field Street