

49

Lopez, Donna

From: James Madden [james.madden06@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2014 11:53 AM
To: City Council; Lopez, Donna
Subject: Policy Order 15 Master Planning

Dear Cambridge City Council:

I am writing to express my support for Mayor Maher, Vice Mayor Benzan, and Councilor McGovern's policy order 15 on the issue of a master plan in Cambridge.

As a Cambridge resident who hopes to be able to stay and raise my family in the City, I am extremely worried about the City's ability to welcome new housing and accommodate growth. I am increasingly dispirited by the growing hostility towards growth and density, despite a City- and Commonwealth-wide housing crisis and the incredible threat of climate change. Any new planning process in Cambridge should allow for the immediate and continued production of new housing, including the availability of standard zoning tools such as special permits and density bonuses for additional housing.

I welcome citizen planning, and I believe the City of Cambridge has a strong track record with the K2C2 plans. Any new planning process in Cambridge should recognize the significant community input and public resources already contributed to K2C2 and similar planning efforts. To disregard K2C2 simply because a vocal minority disagrees with the conclusions would set a bad precedent, and would bring into question the viability of any new community-based planning initiatives in Cambridge. I support policy order 15 because it will ensure equity through a planning process facilitated by the professional staff of Cambridge's Community Development Department, rather than politicized under the auspices of City Council committees.

Thank you,

James Madden

93 Thorndike St #2

Cambridge, MA 02141