

# Attachment A

This is a "living document" to quickly inform people of the Better Practices Sub-Committee.

## Overview:

The City of Cambridge determined it wanted to focus its efforts on becoming a STEAM-driven city. The City invited STEAM representatives to put together working groups to help accomplish this goal. These working groups/Sub-Committees include Better Practices, Youths, Portal, Internships, Outreach.

The Better Practices Sub-Committee is a collection of various people involved with STEAM in the Cambridge Community. We are working towards researching and sharing "better practices" of the STEAM learning environments both within and outside of Cambridge. We have identified several objectives for this group to accomplish, and have laid out several steps to achieve them.

## Goals and Objectives:

- a. Create and send out a detailed survey asking for a description of program details and better practices. From this survey we will create a searchable database for others to view.
- b. Compile report utilizing survey responses identifying trends among Cambridge STEAM programs.
- c. Compile report about other cities' Better Practices or STEAM overarching programs.
- d. Host a discussion during the Agenda For Children symposium about "better practices" related to STEAM.

## What We've Accomplished:

- a. Established clear committee members and met on a regular basis.
- b. Put together a preliminary Survey
- c. Outlined our goals.
- d. Created a working definition of "Better Practices"
- e. Started research on other cities for STEAM programming

## Next Steps

- a. Determine a finalized version of the survey and review with subcommittee.
- b. Outline discussion for the Agenda for Children.
- c. Continue research of other cities (Finish by end of September)

# The Cambridge Challenge

## The Self-Driving Car

2015

*Draft 8.21.14*

The self-driving car is coming soon, perhaps in large numbers only 10 years from now. These “cars” will change our habits and our city as much as the invention of the automobile did one hundred years ago. It will likely mean not just no taxis, buses, or the kinds of trucks we are used to, but no more need for street parking, parking lots, or in many cases driveways. It will require our city to change many of its laws and procedures. The Cambridge Challenge for 2015 is to help prepare Cambridge, its government, businesses, institutions, and people, for this coming revolution.

**Imagine Cambridge in 15 years when self-driving cars are everywhere. What should our city look like? What does it need to do to prepare for them? How will they work?**

These are just some of the kinds of questions you can answer. Your challenge is to help us think today about our future. You may build a model self-driving car. You may develop a presentation or a website to be given to the City Council and City Manager. You may create a new map of the city or of a neighborhood, a plan for making sure that the self-driving car can be used equitably by all. Your vision of the future may be in text, PowerPoint, web, or video for us all to experience. Or you may come up with an entirely different way to think about this potential and prepare us for this amazing new experience.

As usual the *Cambridge Challenge* will have prizes in three different age groups, grades K-5, 6-8, 9-12. You are encouraged to work in groups and you will be assigned one or more mentors. Each project must pass through four milestones:

**Proposal** – You will be asked to submit a proposal by Oct 15 that will include a description of your project and of your needs. You will then be assigned mentors from businesses, the community, or the universities and community space if needed.

**Alpha** – By Dec 1 you must produce the first version of your proposal. It need not work or be fully functional but it should give the judges the ability to understand what you are trying to do.

**Beta** – By Mar 1 you will produce a fully functional project, a working version of a self-driving toy car, a website, a presentation, a product. This version may not work perfectly and may need some tweaking but it will be able to be used by or shown to people outside of the project.

**Production** – By April 15 you will present your final project to the Judges who will rate it and present it to the Cambridge community.

Your project will be judged at the Alpha, Beta, and Production milestones and you will be eligible for prizes at each milestone.

For more ideas come to the Cambridge Challenge website or call the Cambridge Challenge at:

Good luck and get thinking!