

# eliminating racism empowering women

ywca

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January 29, 2015  
via email: [council@cambridgema.gov](mailto:council@cambridgema.gov)

To The Honorable Cambridge City Council:

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This letter comes to you on behalf of the YWCA Cambridge in support of the framework for a Community Benefits and Mitigation Plan being recommended by City Manager Richard Rossi.

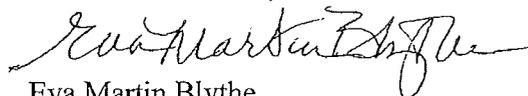
The YWCA Cambridge has served the Cambridge community since 1891. As an association we pride ourselves on our willingness to collaborate with others to maximize whatever resources we have, individually and collectively, to meet the needs of Cambridge area residents. The Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition came together two (2) years ago to provide a framework in which area nonprofits and other service providers could work collaboratively to meet the needs of the Cambridge community. The YWCA Cambridge is an active member of the Coalition which also actively supports the City Manager's proposed plan.

The proposed plan incorporates a number of key criteria that are consistent with the principles to which the Cambridge nonprofit community adheres. Those include:

- Community and data-driven needs assessment
- Funding decisions based on the outcomes of a needs assessment
- Inclusion of nonprofits in the needs assessment, process oversight and decision making
- Transparent process that is simple, clear, and value-driven
- An informed design-making process based on best practices
- A decision making body that is inclusive and represents Cambridge's diverse communities.

We at the YWCA Cambridge look forward to advancing a collaborative effort between the Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition and the City to identify and prioritize community needs and develop solutions to meet those needs. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincere best wishes,



Eva Martin Blythe  
Executive Director