

# In Support of Mass + Main

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City Clerk Agenda

To: Maher, David <dmaher@cambridgema.gov>; Benzan, Dennis <dbenzan@cambridgema.gov>; Cheung, Leland <lcheung@cambridgema.gov>; Kelley, Craig <ckelley@cambridgema.gov>; Mazen, Nadeem <nmazen@cambridgema.gov>; McGovern, Marc <mmcGovern@cambridgema.gov>; Simmons, Denise <dsimmons@cambridgema.gov>; Toomey, Tim <ttoomey@CambridgeMA.GOV>; Paden, Liza <lpaden@cambridgema.gov>; Lopez, Donna <dlopez@cambridgema.gov>; Carlone, Dennis <dcarlone@cambridgema.gov>;

Dear City Council/Planning Board members,

I am writing in support of the Mass + Main zoning proposal put forth by Normandy Real Estate Partners and Twining Properties. As a resident of Central Square, I believe that adding more housing along Mass. Ave. near transit would have a positive impact on the local economy as well as the streetscape. Having lived here since graduating from the University of Virginia in 2012, I already know all too well that the streets of Central Square are not always friendly. Having a residence here would help to stabilize the sense of safety and community.

I think it's great that the developers are proposing housing – not more lab or office space. Housing generates far greater economic impact (by a factor of four) than office or lab, and will help to enliven the area beyond the 9-5 workday.

I also appreciate that the developer is incorporating a wide-range of affordability as well as unit size in their proposal. A mix is good for everyone – and Cambridge as a whole. As a 25-year-old working my first job out of college, I have seen too many young people like myself get priced out of Greater Boston housing. Many of my friends, colleagues, and former classmates have even moved to other cities in order to find an overall lower cost of living. I believe that we need more affordable housing in order to keep young professionals like myself in the area, and this housing should be built near transit.

I think it's important that the City Council consider the voices of everyone who contribute to the vibrancy of our community, not just the same group of local residents who want no change. We have an excellent proposal in Mass + Main that can help keep Central Square a great mixed-used neighborhood for many years to come.

I urge you to vote yes on this proposal to make Mass + Main a reality for Central Square.

Thank you,  
Carolyn Glandorf

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