



SEP 24 14 AM 9:13 City Manager

September 22, 2014

Richard Rossi, City Manager
City of Cambridge
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Council Order No. 18 dated July 28, 2014 – Report on playground at Jefferson Park

Dear Mr. Rossi:

The Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) is in receipt of the City Council Order No. 18, dated July 28, 2014 which requests that you “work with the Cambridge Housing Authority and the residents of Jackson Place (Jefferson Park) to remodel and upgrade the existing playground and recreational facilities and/or move the park entirely.”

The Jefferson Park Development currently includes a playground facility located on the Federal side of the site which is operating and available for use by all the Jefferson Park residents and their guests. We anticipate upgrading the existing facility as part of a comprehensive renovation program that will be undertaken beginning in early 2016 during the Phase II activities of the CHA’s Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program. In advance of that activity, we will work with a professional design team to develop a new play area incorporating the most appropriate equipment and play space in order to create a facility that meets the current and future needs of the residents. During that design process, we will work with the Jefferson Park residents and the City’s Community Development Department to get input into both the type of facility and the placement of the new play area.

It is important to note that the current plans to redevelop the State portion of Jefferson Park include the creation of five distinct open spaces within the newly created community. Two of these five new spaces will incorporate active water-play equipment which we have found to be very popular in other developments within our portfolio.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need further information on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory P. Russ', is written over the typed name.

Gregory P. Russ
Executive Director