

Staff Report to the Board *November 14, 2018*

Administration

The CRA's new project manager, Erica Schwarz began work at the end of October. The CRA staff has been designing new work space configurations for the CRA office space on the 8th floor of 255 Main St to better accommodate Erica while also reducing our footprint. Staff have been closely coordinating with Boston Properties and the Non-Profit Center to share space with the Opportunity Space program. This includes lease and license agreement discussions with both parties. The CRA will re-use a significant amount of the furniture on the floor but will need to purchase a few items especially for our new archive system.

CRA staff has received the executed contracts from Cambridge Snow Management and Brightview Landscaping. The snow removal and landscaping service contracts are for three (3) years. Each of the selected Contractors is familiar with the Kendall Square properties having worked with the CRA in the past.

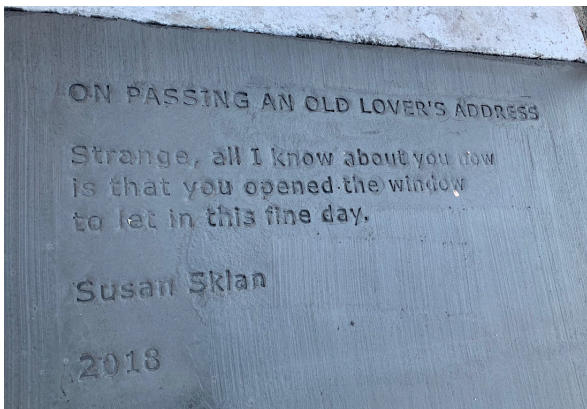
Forward Calendar

1. Infill Development Concept Plan Amendment
2. Foundry Letter Agreement
3. Adaptor Retail Space for 255 Main Street
4. 2019 Budget

Projects and Programs

Parcel 6

CRA staff has held discussions with the Urban Farmers Institute (UFI) for Christmas tree vending services throughout the month of December. UFI has proposed to begin tree sales on the Friday following Thanksgiving. UFI intends to utilize the 3rd & Binney site 7 days a week between the hours of 9am – 8pm. The opportunity to extend Food Truck vending services into December to compliment the Christmas tree sales operation has been offered and accepted by 6 of the existing vendors.



A sidewalk panel located at Parcel 6 was selected by the Cambridge Arts Council and the Department of Public Works to have a poem imbedded into it. Original poetry submitted by current Cambridge residents, ages 4 – 95, were reviewed and selected to be stamped in sidewalks citywide. The Sidewalk Poetry program was launched in 2015.



6th Street Walkway

Turner Construction has completed the 6th Street Walkway Improvement Project. The bike path and walkway were officially opened on Friday, November 2nd. In addition to the new dedicated bike path, other improvements to the 6th Street Walkway include upgraded benches and picnic tables, new LED lighting and fixtures, improved drainage and concrete along the walkway, and enhanced landscaping. The official dedication ceremony for the Kittie Knox Bike Path will take place in the Spring of 2019.

Kendall Square Mobility Task Force Report Graphic Design Assistance

Work with the graphic design team from Visual Dialogue (Ambit) is progressing. The KSMTF previewed the document in late September to provide feedback for the first draft. The final highlights report document will be completed by the end of the year. Photography was taken in early October throughout Kendall Square. All of the other products including the video, brochure, poster, and website, will be completed in the first quarter of 2019.

Next Generation Annual Transportation Data Report w/ VHB

Work has steadily been progressing on the data report. Traffic counts were done in September and October, including pickup and drop-off counts for all of the streets in the MXD district. The team spent much of the summer and early fall doing "discovery interviews" to get information from all of the City departments and transit operators (such as MassDOT/MBTA, EZ Ride, and MIT) to understand what other data sources might be available to add to the report, or expand the geography of the report in the future. New ways to present old information and what new information should be added to future reports was explored. A draft outline for the future report will be completed before the end of the year. Technologies for permanent traffic counting stations were explored and narrowed down with the help of staff at TPT. Cost estimates, an implementation strategy, and timeline will be completed in the coming weeks.

Foundry

The City and CRA have selected W.T. Rich (www.wtrich.com/) as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Foundry construction. As part of the 149a construction procedures, W.T. Rich will be brought on board to assist with the design of the building, initially to provide feedback on the Feasibility Study and Cost Estimate to be completed by Cambridge Seven by year's end. The CRA and Lemelson-MIT are participating in design meetings to align the building program with the financial plan for the building's operations.

The Cambridge Arts Council selection process for an artist to design and build the 'percent for the arts' installation for the Foundry building is in progress. A community meeting to introduce the three finalists will be scheduled for the week after Thanksgiving. The Foundry Consortium is continuing to

hold focus group meetings on the arts and makerspace components of the building's community program.

Central Square BID Graphic Design Assistance

A new identity and logo for the proposed Central Square Business Improvement District was created by our graphic design team, Visual Dialogue in early October. It was rolled out at the end of October during what CSBA is referring to as the "taste of the BID." This is a month-long program to introduce BID-like services to Central Square in an effort to build support among property owners and show the public what Central Square might be like with a BID in place. The new logo was placed on the uniforms of all the new ambassadors as well as trash cans and banners and on social media. Work will be completed by the end of the year on postcards, brochures, website, and final brand guidelines.



Central Square

Business Improvement District

Just-A Start

The Just-A-Start organization is holding its 50th year Gala on November 15th. CRA Board and staff members are participating in the celebration of the milestone for this vital community organization that was launch out of the CRA's Wellington-Harrington Urban Renewal Project in 1968. The CRA continues to partner with JAS on numerous projects from affordable housing to workforce development.