
CRA Parcel 6 at Third and Binney

1 message

Bjorn Poonen <bjornpoonen@gmail.com>
To: planning@cambridgeredevelopment.org

Fri, Jun 17, 2022 at 11:51 AM

Dear Cambridge Redevelopment Authority:

I am writing in support of the letter dated June 13, 2022 that the East Cambridge Planning Team sent to the CRA suggesting that the parcel at Third and Binney be merged with the planned nearby open space in the MIT Volpe plan along Binney to create a slightly larger open space.

During the Planning Board hearing for the Volpe layout, MIT argued that it was necessary to reduce the open space on the Volpe site to what they proposed in order to meet their building needs, even though they wished that it were possible to have a larger open space. Now that the CRA parcel makes it possible to have a little more open space in the block, it therefore would make no sense to use the area to increase the building sizes (even if technically the CRA parcel is not considered part of the Volpe area).

I do see that the ECPT's Scenario 3 has the disadvantage of having buildings C4 and R4 very close to each other; if that is not practical, then Scenario 2 should be the favored one and signage should be added to make clear that the open space between C4 and R4 is public.

Best,
Bjorn Poonen (303 3rd St, Cambridge)