



Ellen Shore <eshore@cambridgeredevelopment.org>

Danny Lewin Park

1 message

Ovadia R Simha <simha@mit.edu>

Mon, May 9, 2022 at 11:38 AM

To: Ellen Shore <eshore@cambridgeredevelopment.org>

Cc: East Cambridge Planning team <board@ecpt.groups.io>, east-cambridge-open-space-trust <east-cambridge-open-space-trust@googlegroups.com>, Kendall Squate Residents Association <k2ra@googlegroups.com>

DearEllen

This is the corrected copy of our letter regarding Danny Lewin Park's design review

On Wed, May 4, 2022 at 5:05 PM Ovadia R Simha <simha@mit.edu> wrote:

Dear Members of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority,

Several members of our community have had a chance to review the proposed changes in Danny Lewin Park and have some concerns that we would like to share with you in the hope that they may be of some assistance in the evolution of the Danny Lewin Park.

The grass area is proposed to be relegated to one corner of the park. Will there be enough sunlight in that area to be welcoming and allow the landscape and planting to prosper?

A significant part of the park is proposed to be dedicated to the Marriott hotel. Will the furnishings be available to the public if they are not residents or are not purchasing services from the Hotel?

The circulation plan now imposes much more hard scape through the center of the park. Is it intended for this to be an active pass through of will the park continue to be a destination for people who want a quiet space to sit and rest.

The furnishings are all very light and the benches proposed do not appear to be durable over the long haul. Also, some of the seating does not have adequate backs to allow for real comfort particularly for older citizens. Can these materials be reconsidered?

Given the direction of the open spaces at 135 Broadway which emphasize hardscape, the Lewin park may be the destination for families with small children and elders who would like to enjoy a softer environment. This suggests that Lewin park should retain more of its softer character and less hardscape.

We also would be interested in whether the family of Danny Lewin has been consulted

regarding the proposed changes to the park? Also, has the CEO of Akamai, Danny Lewin's co founder of Akamai been consulted on the changes proposed for the park?

We hope these comments will be helpful in your considerations.

Respectfully submitted,

O. R. Simha
303 Third Street
Cambridge MA 02142

cc:

Members Kendall Square Residents Association
Members East Cambridge Planning Team