

Summary of Proposed Harvard/M-C Agreement

On July 3, Harvard University representatives offered the following terms of agreement in exchange for support of an easement for a tunnel under Cambridge Street in their last meeting with neighborhood residents and city officials. On July 8, the neighborhood negotiators informed the university that they would not support the proposed agreement. Since then, university representatives have said that the offer is “no longer on the table” and that “we are considering our options” for the tunnel and entire CGIS project.

Harvard's Offer	Neighbors' Position and Comments
Construction Mitigation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Harvard will implement construction mitigation measures recommended in the Parsons Brinkerhoff report in addition to the earlier construction mitigation plan required by the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission (MCNDC). These would apply to the entire CGIS project. 	<p>Additional mitigation measures include stricter standards and monitoring of noise and vibrations and prevention of dust and other air pollution. Would be a substantial improvement over existing plan.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Same standards would apply to all Harvard construction through 2015 on 3 blocks bounded by Broadway, Felton, Cambridge, Sumner, Kirkland, and Quincy streets. <i>This construction will include structural repairs to the Broadway Garage in the next 2 years.</i> 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Limits on street closings and removal of on-street parking for other Harvard construction in the area during CGIS project. <i>Major renovations to the Fogg Museum are planned.</i> 	<p>More street closings during project would be very disruptive.</p>
Moratoriums on Major Construction After CGIS Project	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On Cambridge-Felton-Broadway-Prescott block to 2015. 	<p>Should be at least to 2020.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On Cambridge-Sumner-Kirkland-Quincy and Broadway-Prescott-Cambridge-Quincy blocks to 2010. 	<p>Should be at least to 2015.</p>
Size and Use of New Building on South Side of Cambridge St.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No reduction in size below planned 80,000 square feet floor area. 	<p>Building fills too much of lot and should be scaled back.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No reduction in planned 250-plus classroom seats. 	<p>Lecture halls do not belong in a heavily residential block.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Instead, evening, weekend, and summer school classes prohibited for 5 years. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Limits on weekend conferences, also for 5 years. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Small classrooms available for community use for 10 years. 	
Area Planning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Harvard to discuss with the University Community Relations Committee of the City Council “how a successful balance of institutional and residential uses at the campus/Mid-Cambridge neighborhood edge can be continued.” 	<p>Because CGIS project greatly increases institutional uses, a stronger commitment is needed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No removal of Harvard-owned residences in 4-block area through 2009, with possible extension. 	<p>Step toward important long-term goal.</p>
Payments and Land Swap	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$800,000 to City. 	<p>Offered by Harvard.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$200,000 to Foxcroft Manor Condominium Association. 	<p>Fund for all abutters needed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Transfer lot at 18 Sumner Road to city and reduce payment to \$100,000 for use as park. Contingent on approval for moving house at 96 Prescott St. to Museum Street instead of Sumner lot. 	<p>Land swap is the initiative of Councilor David Maher. If properly planned, could benefit residents.</p>
Signatures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Full support by negotiating group before Neighborhood Association review. 	<p>M-C Association review needed first.</p>