



IAN A. WAITZ

Dean of Engineering

Jerome C. Hunsaker Professor of
Aeronautics and Astronautics

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

April 1, 2013

To the Honorable Members of the Cambridge City Council:

We are writing as the leaders of MIT's School of Engineering to relay our strong support for the Institute's Kendall Square rezoning petition that is before you.

The School of Engineering is MIT's largest school, with 37% of the Institute's faculty, 46% its students, and 55% of its on-campus research funding. We strongly endorse MIT's proposal to more effectively use the Kendall Square area to address MIT's and Cambridge's needs. Reinvigoration of the area will amplify the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in and around MIT that we all contribute to and count on to provide long-term economic sustainability for the City and beyond.

The petition calls for the gradual conversion of Kendall Square into a much-needed gateway that will better connect the MIT campus to the business district and nearby neighborhoods. Visitors to Kendall Square will see and experience first-hand the close connections between MIT and the City of Cambridge. In addition, the proposal has carefully preserved existing academic space that is so crucial to the Institute's future.

Through a broad engagement with faculty, students, staff, and other members of our community, we believe the MIT administration has effectively and appropriately addressed the challenges and complexities of this proposal. A positive and balanced path forward has been established regarding graduate student housing and east-campus planning that will serve the MIT community as a whole.

Besides the obvious benefits of enhanced vibrancy and visibility, and a strengthened innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem, the financial benefits to both Cambridge and MIT from the proposed development are significant.

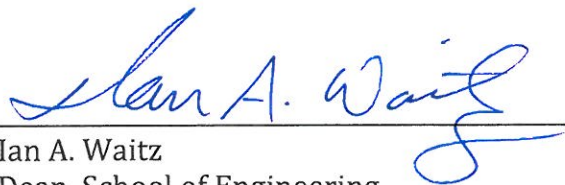
Finally, the proposal will allow us to further capitalize on the power of proximity that is so essential to our work. The School of Engineering's "next-door" corporate relationships with Novartis, Google, Microsoft, Amazon, Genzyme, IBM, Sanofi Aventis, and other local and multinational companies are critical to our success in educating future leaders and addressing global challenges. Adding capacity to, and improving the environment for, these key participants in our network of collaborators will enable us to be even more successful as a research university and provide significant benefits for the local economy.



We hope that you will support us in our endeavors.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,



Ian A. Waitz
Dean, School of Engineering
Jerome C. Hunsaker Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics



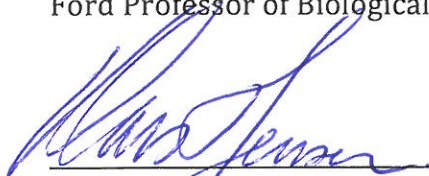
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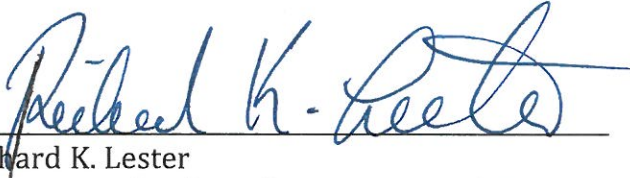
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