

Friday, October 21, 2016 10:45 AM

Dear Agassiz Neighborhood Council members,

I want to acknowledge receipt of your letter and appended materials as received on October 19th 2016. I do appreciate the time and effort the neighborhood has committed to this process and I want you to know that City staff continues to be equally committed to working with you in trying to resolve the outstanding issues.

While I respectfully disagree with some of your recollections of the recent meetings between members of the ANC and staff as presented in your letter, I have instructed staff to delay the bid opening by approximately 1 month, until December 1st 2016, so as to allow for additional time to consider more input and possible plan and specification revisions. I also have asked staff to work with the ANC to hold a joint public meeting during this time extension, so as to better respond to the various questions and concerns that have emerged about the different elements of the plan, and to have time to hear from all interested parties.

I expect the meeting will include discussions about the lighting and the path around the field, which you indicate are the key continuing areas of concern. As was stated at our meeting in August we are very open to additional modifications concerning lighting, to include having fewer of them and having them turned off after 7pm in the evening. As was also stated at the August meeting we continue to be committed to a pathway plan that meets Universal Design standards. While at this time, the surface material chosen for the pathway has been changed from asphalt to a rubber material to respond to community safety concerns, staff continues to search for other options that might meet Universal Design standards and might also address additional concerns raised by members of the community.

I will also communicate your desire to present your position to the Commission for Persons with Disabilities to Michael Muehe, Executive Director of the Commission. I expect Michael will seek to have you meet with the Commission as soon as possible so that you can discuss your position with it.

Sincerely,
Lisa Peterson

Lisa C. Peterson, ICMA-CR
Acting City Manager
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139
617-349-4300
www.cambridgema.gov