Laws hinder search for dorm

(Continued from page 1)

year to plan and another year" to do the work. The development time, he asserted, "would be cut at least by a year."

The type of building is also an issue to be resolved. "Apartments are the desired kind of thing," Dickson said. However, MIT would "like to do mixtures of singles and apartments."

Problem with parking

"Some of our sites are legally committed to ground parking," Dickson warned. He explained that a condition for operating many dormitories is the provision of a legally specified amount of parking. If more rooms are added, Dickson said, more parking will also have to be added.

As an illustration, he described the addition of a 400 room dormitory. A possible condition attached to it might be the addition of 800 parking spaces. Dickson said, since much of the potential land is now parking lot, the construction of a new building might take away from the available parking space.

"We might have to replace the parking spaces," Dickson said. One way to do this would be to build a garage, but "garages are very, very expensive. MIT is proud that they have never had to build a garage to meet student parking requirements," he added.

The biggest problem, he explained, is the cost. "It costs about ten grand for one car to put it in a garage. Two hundred parking spaces adds $2,000,000 to the project."

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