City council to vote on Simplex re-zoning plan

By Katie Schwartz and Seth Gordon
The Cambridge City Council has advanced a re-zoning plan for MIT's Simplex property to the final stage. A vote is set for Monday, with some councillors saying they may introduce last-minute amendments to cut the amount of development on the site.

Approval would pave the way for MIT's $125 million "University Park." This mixed-use proposal is the most successful of many attempts in the past 20 years to rename the former factory site.

MIT supports the re-zoning package—a compromise worked out between two-thirds of the City Council and the city, said Tent City supporter Councillor Alice Wolf, who sits on the executive committee.

Councilwoman Saundra Graham, according to the Chronicle, voted against sending the bill to a final vote, denying that she was influenced by a possible re-zoning plan. As of yesterday afternoon, she reported, she did not have an estimate of how much those alterations would cost. Councilman Alphonso Mamali, according to the Chronicle, thought that 100 housing units on the site should be exclusively for families making half the Boston area median income, and believed the traffic guidelines of the re-zoning package were too vague. Councillor Alfred Wheatley was quoted there as saying, "If I can't get answers about housing and traffic, then I see trouble ahead."

On the other hand, the Chronicle reported that Mayor Walker said at the Cambridge City Council.

Perelman named new writing director

By Byanne Staia
Leslie Perlman, the former coordinator of the Institute Writing Requirement office, said he is shifting his responsibilities to evaluating the writing requirement office to the new writing requirement staff to the new writing requirement office.

Perlman replaced Joni Ives, who is now associate dean in the Undergraduate Academic Support Office. Although Perlman does not plan to alter the current structure of the writing requirement, he is interested in continuing to coordinate the writing requirement office.

Student protests explosive device in MacGregor House

A resident of MacGregor House has placed an explosive device designed to create noise and smoke in the dormitory just before finals week. Had the device malfunctioned, it might have caused serious fire damage to the building, according to MIT Police Chief Anne G. Grant.

The device is a timing devise, which could be set to explode by a variety of means. On Dec. 8, the student continuing to live in MacGregor while the COD reviews the case, Tewhey said.

Forrester model predicts economic downturn

By Andrew D. Perlette
The United States may be at the onset of a major economic downturn, according to Professor of Management Jay W. Forrester '45, the winner of the 1987-88 James R. Killian Jr. Faculty Award.

"Tent City" homeless find temporary shelter

By Katie Schwartz
Nine of the "Tent City" homeless have moved into apartments provided temporarily by landlord Alex Steinberg. The group has no objection to living on the property and is pleased with the shelter.

The homeless relieve accommodation in shelters for the homeless. The City Council's housing office in Cambridge.

The homeless relief agency has been working on a proposal to MIT asking it to donate three vacant houses on Blanchard Street, next to their temporary shelter in the city.

The group is awaiting answers to the question of whether the apartments should be given to the homeless. The City Council has been considering possible problems, Penn said. Under Massachusetts law, the city can take the units on the market after March 1, the deadline for their use.

Steinberg had originally offered two apartments, one on a two-bedroom flat in a two-bedroom flat in the homeless group rent-free until December. The group has moved in and will move to a larger apartment in the Wellesley campus.

The homeless group has complained for a month on MIT's role in the homeless housing, said Stewart Guernsey, assistant to the chairman of the MIT Corporation.

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