City Counters CASPAR Plan
Proposal Would Lease, not Sell Four Streets to MIT

By Sarah Y. Alkhfitlgy

MIT officials and the city of Cambridge last week moved an inch closer to resolving the future of a rehabilitation shelter for homeless alcoholics and drug addicts near Central Square last week.

Cambridge officials made a counterproposa! to MIT’s recent offer to provide a permanent shelter for the Cambridge and Somerville Program for Alcoholics Rehabilitation at its current location on Institute property last week.

Instead of giving MIT four on-campus city streets in exchange for the building, city officials proposed giving MIT one street and leasing the other three streets.

Last Tuesday, the city’s negotiating team sent a letter to President Charles M. Vest thanking him for MIT’s current offer. In the letter, the negotiating team also supported a proposal to sell the section of Amherst Street to MIT, and to lease Carlton Street, Hayward Street, and the sidewalks of Vassar Street west of Massachusetts Avenue for 20 years, on a renewable contract.

“We’re getting close to the point of having reasonable discussions and seeing we can wrap this up,” explained Councilor Jonathan S. Myers, who heads a nine-member city committee examining the CASPAR problem.

Because of MIT’s latest offer and the counterproposal, a significant amount of progress has been made, he noted.

“The intention of the negotiating team is that for all practical purposes, the use of the streets under leasing will be equivalent to the ownership of said streets,” the letter said.

Street sale still troubles.

One reason MIT’s original proposal was attacked was because it asked for public streets in return for funding the CASPAR shelter. “I profoundly disfavor this notion of selling streets,” said Cambridge Mayor Kenneth E. Reeves at a city council meeting on Jan. 25.

With MIT’s new offer, the Institute would keep ownership of the building, leasing it to CASPAR for $1 a year for 20 years, with an option to renew. In the original proposal, the city would retain ownership of the building.

MIT would spend $1.8 to $2 million to construct the building.

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Four Members of UA Finance Board Up for Election in March

By Trudy Liu

Students will now be able to elect some of the members of the Undergraduate Association Association Finance Board during the UA general election in March.

Fin Board allocates funding from the Institute to more than 100 student activities. In the past only the UA nomination committee was involved in selecting the members.

A Fin Board review group made this change in the bylaws “to allow for more diversity and a wider selection of people,” said Chairman Matthew S. Warren ’93.

“This change reflects an attitude of openness. Anyone can apply for a position on the Finance Board and get elected. Both the UA general election and the selection by nomination committee are well-established procedures,” said UA Council Floor Leader Rajaanish A. Chitaley ’95.

“We didn’t think we could do it,” he said.

Although the member selection process has changed, student involvement, the allocation procedure will remain the same, Warren said. “We will keep our basic philosophy and policy,” he added.

Four out of the 16 board members will be chosen through the general election, and four will be chosen by the UA nomination committee. Three current Fin Board members automatically continue to serve on the board: the elected chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary.

The remaining five positions are ex officio and are filled by the Association of Student Activities treasurer, the Dormitory Council treasurier, the Interfraternity Council treasurer, the UA treasurer, and one UA council member.

“The biggest issue facing the