CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Institute made its new offer last Monday after residents and several members of the city council strongly opposed MIT's original offer to renovate a building in Central Square for a permanent CASPAR site.

The CASPAR shelter has been looking for a permanent location for 19 years. In MIT's new proposal, the Institute offered to build a permanent shelter at 240 Albany St., a site owned by MIT. The shelter has been in temporary trailers there since 1979.

Myers emphasized that the negotiating committee's endorsement is a proposal, not an offer. "Nothing is definite until something is voted on by the council," he said.

The proposal was made after a consensus of the city's negotiating committee. There are three council members on the committee. Myers is chair of the group, which was appointed by the mayor.

No response from MIT

City officials are unsure of MIT's response to the proposal, or if MIT is working on a more definite offer. MIT officials could not be contacted yesterday.

"There were certain things that needed to be resolved," said Corinna E. Latham, who has been involved in working to help find a permanent site for the CASPAR shelter.

"The city's counteroffer takes care of one of them. I had a problem with giving streets to MIT while only leasing the streets to CASPAR," he said.

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The reaction to leasing the streets hasn't been good — it's not a value-for-value exchange — but value is a subjective thing," she added.

"We have not had an official response [from MIT] to date," Lathan said. "In general, the premise of [MIT's] first offer was it's an exchange value-for-value," Lathan said. "In general, the MIT career office.

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