Graduate Student Council

Statement in Support of the Formation of a Young Adult Commission

Dear Cambridge City Council,

The Graduate Student Council (GSC) represents the 6,900 graduate students of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in all matters concerning their quality of life during their studies at MIT. The GSC firmly supports all policies and programs that increase the civic engagement of the MIT community. Therefore, the GSC is a proponent of the formation of a city commission dedicated to providing a forum for exploring and addressing the concerns of young adults in Cambridge.

Given that MIT graduate students represent 6% of the greater Cambridge population, and that 39.5% of Cambridge residents are between the ages of 15 to 29, a commission of this type would be critical in giving more representation to a large portion of the constituency. The issues faced by young adults in Cambridge are unique yet broad, concerning highly discussed topics such as transportation and housing. There is precedent for similar commissions in other cities, including Austin, TX and Keene, NH. Considering Cambridge’s prominent young adult population and reputation as a famous collegiate city, we believe following other cities’ example and establishing a similar commission would be particularly beneficial.

Thank you for your hard work and representation,

The MIT Graduate Student Council

Prepared by the External Affairs Board on behalf of the MIT Graduate Student Council. February 2019.