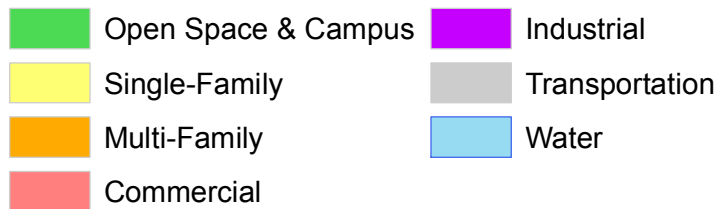
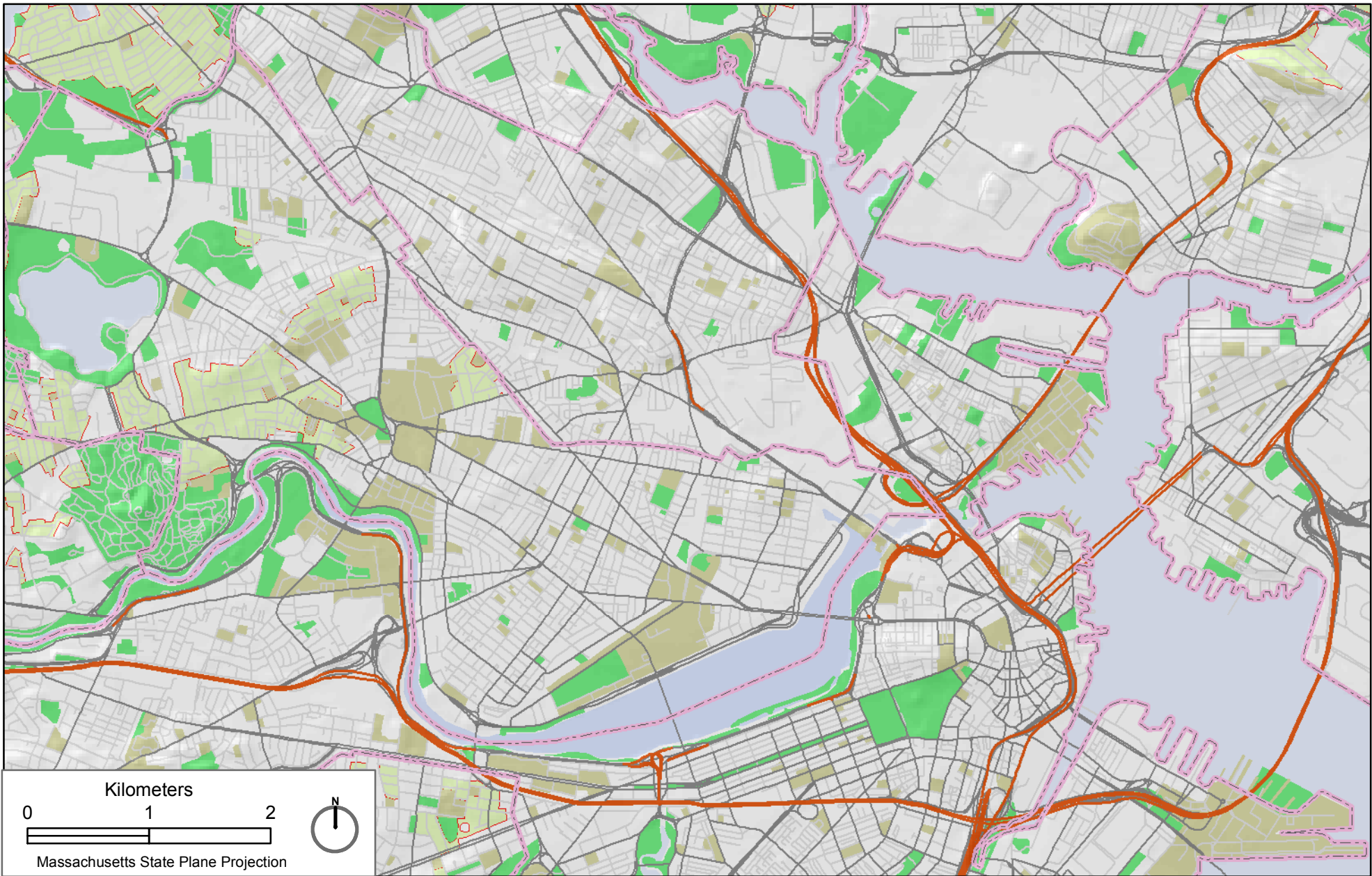


## General Land Use, 1999

This generalized view of the 1999 MassGIS Land Use dataset provides an overview of the general pattern of land use in the greater Cambridge and Somerville areas. The area is largely multifamily residential, with commercial corridors, with significant areas identified as Industrial and Open Space. It is important to keep in mind that the minimum mapping unit used in the original classification was 1 acre, and the original 37 classes have been generalized to simplify this overview. The next map will focus on a reclassification of these data to highlight potential natural areas.



Sources:  
 Map: Paul Cote; Fundamentals of GIS  
 Assignment 1; September 2009  
 Land Use: Massachusetts GIS, 1999.  
 Reclassified for Natural Patches



# Aerial Interpretation of Natural Patches

The MassGIS Land Use layer reflects an aerial photo interpretation conducted in 1999. This database has several classifications that may be useful for understanding natural patches in the city: Within this frame, the areas classified as Ambient Natural include cemeteries and public parks. The land use layer also identifies Single Family Residential areas, which on inspection of the aerial typically have yards with trees. Campuses are classified as Urban Open. Because the classification of this data did not consider patches any smaller than one acre we can expect that smaller potential natural patches may have been missed. Because campuses contain many areas that are not natural, this layer may overestimate natural patches in these areas.

# MassGIS Land Use 1999

## Natural Classification

- Ambient Natural
- Campus (Urban Open)
- Single Family Residential

Sources:  
 Map: Paul Cote; Fundamentals of GIS Assignment 1; September 2009  
 Land Use: Massachusetts GIS, 1999.  
 Reclassified to Natural Patches

