



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To James L. Sullivan
City Manager

Date March 20, 1975

From Charles F. Sprague
Building Commissioner

Reference

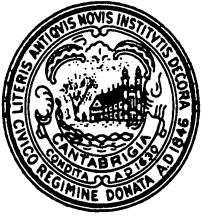
Subject

Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

I respectfully request that Article II DEFINITIONS, Item 9. Dwelling, semi-detached (which reads) "One of a series of buildings not exceeding six in number with a party wall or walls, common to adjoining buildings, each of which is arranged, intended or designed as the home or residence of one or two families including row houses". be changed to read "One of a series of buildings not exceeding six in number with a masonry party wall or walls," etc.

Reason:

When the zoning was revised in 1960 the definition was founded on the 1943 Building Code of the City of Cambridge definition of a party wall which reads "Party Wall. A Masonry wall that separates two or more buildings and is used or adapted for the use of more than one building". The new State Building Code identifies a party wall only as a fire wall separating adjoining buildings. A Fire Wall is defined as a wall having adequate fire resistance, etc. The problem with that definition is that in a wood frame building we are left with only a three-quarter hour requirement which is no separation at all for reasons of fire protection.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

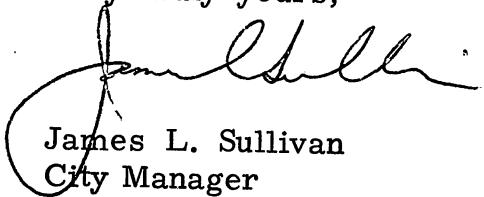
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

March 20, 1975

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I transmit herewith a communication from Charles F. Sprague, Building Commissioner, dated March 20, 1975, relative to a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, for your action.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/b

Agenda # 18

Amendment to the Zoning Ordinances.

In City Council,

March 24, 1975

*Referred to Ordinance
Committee + Ordinance
Copy sent to Ordinance
Committee 3/25/75 dl*