

To the Honorable, the Cambridge City Council
Re: Affordable Housing Ballot Question
From David Hoicka
June 18, 1998

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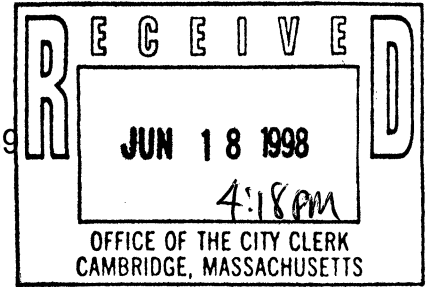
David Hoicka and Ralph Lopez believe it is terrible so many working families are denied good quality affordable housing in our affluent society, and encourage everyone to vote YES on the Affordable Housing Referendum.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hoicka', with a stylized, cursive script.

David Hoicka,
547-4000

David Hoicka
10 Lopez Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
June 18, 1998



To the Honorable, the Cambridge City Council

Ballot Referendum for Affordable Housing

I am writing to notify the Cambridge City Council that Ralph Lopez and I have now collected enough signatures to place our Hoicka/Lopez Ballot Referendum for Affordable Housing on the Ballot, and the text has been approved by the Attorney General's office.

It is unconscionable that, despite record state and federal budget surpluses, and a stock market at its highest ever, funds for basic human needs are compromised as Republicans seek profits and tax cuts for the well-to-do, on the backs of those less fortunate. Regrettably, some Democrats are also forgetting their roots and ignoring the basic housing needs of working families.

The Legislature has done little to protect or create affordable housing this year. In fact, funding is being cut for the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency (MHFA), one of the only agencies which is dedicated to the production of long-term affordable housing in Massachusetts. The MHFA is threatened with elimination next year. Other affordable housing legislation has been stalled.

To set legislative priorities straight, and to stimulate production and availability of affordable housing, David Hoicka and Ralph Lopez have sponsored a ballot referendum:

Text of Ballot Question:

"Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation

stimulating increased production and availability of affordable housing for middle class and low income residents of Massachusetts, including rental and home ownership."

The Hoicka/Lopez Affordable Housing Petition appears to be the only ballot initiative on Affordable Housing in Massachusetts this year.

Through this Ballot Initiative, more than 10,000 Cambridge residents can directly vote to show the State House that affordable housing is critical to our working families. If a survey of 200 or 300 people is statistically significant, a vote showing the opinion of 10,000 Cambridge Voters, should carry great weight throughout the state and have national influence.

4705
Consent Communicaiton #22

A communication was received from David Hoicka, transmitting a letter regarding placing on the Ballot a referendum question regarding Affordable Housing.

In City Council June 22, 1998

PLACED ON FILE

