



CAMBRIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
2 ESSEX STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02139
(617) 876-9176

19 January 1973

The President
The White House
Washington, District of Columbia

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing on behalf of the Cambridge Civic Association to protest as strongly as possible the recently announced federal moratorium on housing subsidy programs, water and sewer grants, open space grants, and public facility loans.

Cessation of the housing programs in particular will cause great harm to the City of Cambridge. At present some 150 units of low income housing that have feasibility are threatened with loss of funds because of shared pool funding. Secondly, some 180 units are in the pre-feasibility proposal stage and will be abandoned. Thirdly, Cambridge's announced housing goal of 1750 low income units in the next ten years (incidentally, this is about one-third the documented need) will also have to be abandoned. Fourthly, a number of low income "sweat equity" home ownership programs, just getting started, will stop.

Beyond this, the sudden moratorium, without any transition period, will essentially wipe out the housing infrastructure. All the mechanisms, the agencies, the community development corporations, and the citizens' organizations that have been implementing the housing programs will disappear. Even if special revenue sharing is passed, two years or more will pass before funds are again available and the mechanisms can start up again.

Most important, these programs were a means, perhaps the only means, for Cambridge to be able to retain its family character and its low to middle income working population. Abandonment of these programs, without any immediate substitute, will only hasten the division of Cambridge into the rich and the poor. Speaking for our membership, I earnestly ask you to reconsider your actions.

Sincerely,

David B. Harris, President

cc: Secretary Designate Lynn
Senator Kennedy
Senator Brooke
Congressman O'Neil
Cambridge City Council
City Manager Corcoran



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Cambridge City Council
Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Councillors:

I hope you will note the enclosed letter to President Nixon expressing the views of the Board of Directors of the Cambridge Civic Association on the recently announced federal housing moratorium. We urge you to take whatever action lies within your authority to bring this matter forcefully to the attention of the President and the Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'David B. Harris'. The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large 'D' and a prominent 'H'.

David B. Harris, President

Enclosure



City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

#14.✓

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Communication from David B. Harris,
President of CCA with a letter to
President Nixon expressing the view of
the Board of Directors of the CCA on the
federal housing moratorium.

In City Council

January 29, 1973

1/29/73

Referred to the
City Manager
for Report -