



# City of Cambridge

2.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 12, 1998

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU  
COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO  
COUNCILLOR REEVES  
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL

WHEREAS: It has recently been reported that Massachusetts cities may be prevented from timely application for a large pool of federal grant funds to help schools and libraries connect to the Internet because of state public bidding law constraints; and

WHEREAS: Boston officials are reportedly drafting special legislation to set up a streamlined process that will allow them to meet the timetable for applying for funds without violating the bidding laws; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter with recommendations as to what steps Cambridge should take to ensure its eligibility to apply for these funds.

In City Council January 12, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

KT

(2)

Whereas: It has recently been reported that Massachusetts cities may be prevented from timely application for a large pool of federal grant funds to ~~assist~~ help schools and libraries connect to the Internet because of <sup>state</sup> public bidding law constraints; and

Whereas: Boston officials are reportedly drafting special legislation to set up a streamlined process that will allow them to meet the timetable for applying for funds w/o violating the bidding laws; now therefore be it

~~Resolved:~~

That the C-M. be + hb is requested to report back to the C-C on this matter and w/ recommendations as to what steps Cambridge should take to ensure its ~~is~~ the ~~best possible~~ eligibility to apply for those funds.

# Law may disconnect schools, libraries from Internet grants

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By Judy Rakowsky  
GLOBE STAFF

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Massachusetts cities cannot get in line for a big pile of money from Washington to help schools and libraries get wired to the Internet without running afoul of a state law that mandates an elaborate bidding process for construction in public buildings.

Aides to Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino have been sounding the alarm to school superintendents and mayors across the state, warning that there is no way to abide by the law and meet the timetable for applying for the funds.

Boston officials are drafting special legislation to blast through the red tape and waive some of the cumbersome bidding requirements, but many remain pessimistic.

"People are talking about doing something," said Peter R. Finn, executive director of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents. "But I'm not sure anyone is going to take the bull by the horns and get it resolved."

The decades-old law in question, originally conceived to combat corruption in the awarding of construction contracts for public buildings, requires separate bidding pro-

... than to redefine good and evil in the modern world.

But that's about politics, and it's about huge financial stakes in opening up trade.

...

This warmth of the people on the street toward Americans, in contrast to the anti-American rhetoric from Islamic clergy and on billboards, is more layered and complex.

In both cultures, people are bombarded with negative images of the other. For Americans, the TV footage of Iranian students holding hostages from the US Embassy at gunpoint is etched in the country's collective memory. For Iranians, the images of presidents Richard M. Nixon and Lyndon B. Johnson warmly supporting the corrupt and tyrannical shah fueled the fury that resulted in the overthrow of the shah and still smolders in street demonstrations.

"There is great misunderstanding in America of our country," said a leading cleric, Ayatollah Makarem Shirazi.

America's failure to recognize Iran's success in exercising democracy infuriates Iranians, he says, especially when Iran's recent record is compared to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Egypt. Those American allies are not true representative democracies, Shirazi said, adding that in Iran the president was recently elected by a nearly 70 percent majority in an election in which 90 percent of the eligible voters participated.

He also blamed the American media for feeding negative stereotypes of Iran to

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1. Congratulations to Matt Damon and Ben Affleck (double check spelling) they are CRLS graduates who wrote and starred in the movie Good Will Hunting. You should see the film, excellent, with scenes from Cambridge and one wonderful scene in the Tasty. It's been in the papers recently.

2. Front page article this morning regarding grant money from the federal government for internet...problems with chapter 149 bidding law....boston is drafting special legislation....do we have to do that too? any problems that the cm anticipates? are we applying?

thanks and have a happy new year!

kt

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <>

Received: from relay08.mail.aol.com (relay08.mail.aol.com [172.31.109.8])  
by air14.mail.aol.com (v37.8) with SMTP; Mon, 29 Dec 1997 08:40:16  
-0500

Received: from mrin52.mail.aol.com (mrin52.mx.aol.com [198.81.19.162])  
by relay08.mail.aol.com (8.8.5/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)  
with ESMTMP id IAA20506 for <KTCouncil@aol.com>;  
Mon, 29 Dec 1997 08:39:34 -0500 (EST)

Received: from localhost (localhost)  
by mrin52.mail.aol.com (8.8.5/8.7.3/AOL-2.0.0)  
with internal id IAA17889;  
Mon, 29 Dec 1997 08:39:34 -0500 (EST)

Date: Mon, 29 Dec 1997 08:39:34 -0500 (EST)

From: Mail Delivery Subsystem <MAILER-DAEMON@aol.com>

Subject: Returned mail: Host unknown (Name server: ci.cambridg.ma.us:  
host not found)

Message-Id: <199712291339.IAA17889@mrin52.mail.aol.com>



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COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

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ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter with recommendations as to what steps Cambridge should take to ensure its eligibility to apply for these funds.

Consent Order #2

1-CM

Councillor Triantafyllou re: Ensure that  
Cambridge is eligible for federal grant funds  
to help schools and libraries connect to  
the Internet.

In City Council January 12, 1998

**ORDER ADOPTED**