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February 4, 1987

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Dear City Council,

HOMEOWNER, and
As a person active in the Cambridge community, I am writing to express my concern at the imminent eviction of cultural and service groups at 595 - 605 Mass. Ave. and 8 - 12 Essex St., Central Sq., by Mr. J. Shockett. This developer is receiving federal funding for his project, and is therefore required to relocate the present tenants.

These varied groups make a significant contribution to our community, and to the entire metropolitan Boston area, by providing a wide range of cultural and educational activities. Cambridge has always been known for the strength of its international and artistic communities. The present redevelopment of Central Square threatens their existence.

* My reasons for buying a home in Cambridge include access to alternative cultural institutions.

We urge your support of these groups in the following ways:

- (1) ensuring that the Community Development Department find comparable space and location for a period of at least eight years.
- (2) Having either the city or the developer cover the costs associated with moving.
- (3) Ensuring that the groups are not evicted before alternative space is found, as outlined in point (1).

We urge the Cambridge City Council to make the above stipulations part of any agreement with the developer before the release of any Urban Development Action Grant money or other funds and permits.

Among the groups affected by this eviction are:

American Jiann Shyong Kung Fu Center, Batucada Belles, Cambridge Center for Responsible Research, Centro Presente, Coalition for Basic Human Needs, Coalition to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation. Free theatre Collective. Folk Arts Center. North Atlantic

Ballet. Sanchin Women's School of Karate and Self-Defense.
SANE. Street Magazine, Sygn Magazine.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE #

Rob Haimes

14 Lee St.

354-1917

Rob Haimes

Comm. from Rob Haimes expressing concern at
the eviction of cultural & service groups at
595-605 Mass. Ave. & 8-12 Essex St.

In City Council,

February 23, 1987

Referred to the Hearing