

City of Cambridge

~~31~~
Calendar Item #1

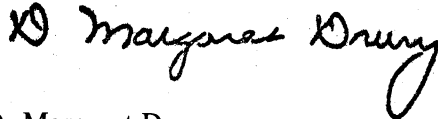
~~May 4, 1998~~
May 11, 1998

COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR DUEHAY
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record in support of the Environmental Justice Grant submitted by North Cambridge residents. (see attached)

In City Council May 11, 1998.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;



ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

6 Saint Gerard Terrace
Cambridge, MA 02140
15 April, 1998

RECEIVED BY
CITY CLERK

98 APR 16 AM 11:34

CAMBRIDGE MA.

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Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Council Members:

Alewife Neighbors, Inc. (ANI) has applied for a \$20,000 Environmental Justice grant from the EPA. As the enclosed application describes, this grant would be used to develop an environmental advocacy and networking group within Jefferson Park and the three Rindge Towers. We have determined that both Jefferson Park and the Towers sit on top of Tier I-B hazardous waste sites (see enclosed list¹) and adjacent to a Tier I-C site (W.R. Grace). Additionally, these housing complexes sit astride or near major surface roads, parking lots and a railroad with all the negative impacts that this location has on air quality. Unfortunately, the residents of these complexes, like many disadvantaged groups, frequently do not have the necessary combination of knowledge and finances necessary to protect themselves against these everyday environmental threats.

This grant is ANI's attempt to help empower this traditionally unempowered group in the arena of environmental awareness and advocacy. We feel that it is important to help teach the residents of these housing complexes how to proactively and efficiently participate in the environmental decision-making processes that affect them and their families. In this context, this grant would fund an important project that strikes at the heart of environmental justice.

While we believe that the grant application is tightly crafted, we feel that a letter of support from your office would be very helpful in obtaining these important funds. As you know, ANI's history of neighborhood environmental advocacy, including obtaining and dispensing DEP's Technical Assistance Grant and assisting in the environmental sampling of Russell Field and Parkway Pond, is a model of citizen advocacy and neighborhood building. We believe that the same skillsets that have made ANI successful thus far would help us maximize the EPA's environmental justice grant and build an effective environmental network in the target community of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers.

We respectfully request that the Cambridge City Council pass an resolution supporting this important grant application and forward a copy to the EPA point of contact. Her name and address are: Rhona Julien, USEPA Region I (RAA), JFK Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203. Ms. Julien may be reached at phone at 617-565-9454. These are hotly contested funds and we need all the help we can get in obtaining them.

As always, I may be reached at 617-354-8353 or via email at VoteCraig@Juno.com should you have any questions about this grant application or any other North Cambridge issue.

Thank you very much for you assistance.

Sincerely,



Craig A. Kelley, Esq.

¹ To obtain a copy of this list, visit DEP's online information center at [HTTP://WWW.Magnet.state.ma.us/deplist.htm](http://WWW.Magnet.state.ma.us/deplist.htm). For specific assistance in locating this information, please call me at 617-354-8353.

1998 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SMALL GRANT APPLICATION
JEFFERSON PARK/RINDGE TOWERS HOUSING COMPLEXES
NORTH CAMBRIDGE, MA 02140

Submitted by Alewife, Neighbors, Inc. Point of Contact: Craig A. Kelley, 6 Saint Gerard Terrace, Cambridge, MA 02140 617-354-8353 Email: Votecraig@Juno.

A. ONE PAGE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TARGET AUDIENCE:

The Target Audience consists of the inhabitants of the housing complexes at 362 and 364 Rindge Avenue (Fresh Pond Apartments), 402 Rindge Avenue (Just a Start) and 1 Jackson Place (Jefferson Park). Because of their looming, multi-story size, the three buildings on Rindge Avenue are referred to collectively as "Rindge Towers." Each of the three towers contains 250 units and Jefferson Park, which is made of numerous low-rise buildings, has 284 units. The inhabitants of these complexes consist predominately of minority and/or low-income residents of many ethnicities, including Latino, African-American, Asian and Caribbean backgrounds. Many residents are not proficient in English and a large number are either elderly or have disabilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT:

Clean Air Act (CAA)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT:

The residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers consist of numerous minority and low-income groups who have traditionally been unable to effectively present their concerns to environmental decision-making bodies. Located on top of two suspected hazardous waste sites, across the street from a third and adjacent to or near numerous air pollutant sources, including a major state highway, these housing complexes pose the classic problem of unempowered stakeholders facing environmental threats that are beyond their current abilities to handle.

PROGRAM GOALS THE PROJECT WILL MEET AND HOW IT WILL MEET THEM:

- 1. Identify necessary improvements in communication and coordination among stakeholders:* With over twenty-five hundred residents speaking over 5 major languages and additional dialects, it is difficult for individuals to know which other residents are interested in or knowledgeable about local environmental concerns. This project will create a solid informational infrastructure, including focused work groups and local points of contact for environmental questions, that will allow interested residents to coordinate among themselves when addressing environmental issues.
- 2. Enhance community understanding of environmental and public health information systems and generate information on pollution in the community:* The inhabitants of these complexes typically do not understand environmental terms, do not have the knowledge to effectively access environmental resources and have no experience dealing with environmental agencies. As a result, they have very little actual knowledge of environmental and public health information systems or issues. By making environmental resources accessible, developing environmental illness data and providing knowledgeable neighborhood residents to explain complex issues, the project will help the target audience build skills needed to be proactive on environmental issues.

B.

Nature of Organization.

The Alewife Neighbors, Inc. (ANI) is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1997 under Massachusetts state law to address environmental issues in the Alewife area of North Cambridge. This corner of Cambridge contains approximately 2500 households, including the over 1000 housing units associated with Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers, and roughly 6,000 residents. Much of the Alewife area has a history of heavy industrial use as brickyards, chemical manufacturing plants or auto-related services. This industrial history has resulted in several properties within the Alewife area being listed on the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) as Tier I or Tier II hazardous waste sites. Of primary importance, the W.R. Grace site, across the street from Rindge Towers, is a listed Tier I-C site. Both Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers are reportedly located on listed hazardous waste sites.

ANI is governed by a nine-member board of neighborhood residents, including one resident from Rindge Towers. The Board's professional expertise includes construction, education and consulting. Individuals active in ANI issues include attorneys, environmental scientists, environmental consultants, public safety officials and at least one traffic engineer.

ANI has three tiers of volunteers. The first tier is the Board. Traditionally, Board members are those who are willing to come to regular meetings and to help tackle specific projects such as assisting with outreach or conducting regulatory research. ANI is constantly looking for new Board members and it is hoped that as residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers learn more about environmental issues and how they can be involved, more of them will choose to become members of the ANI Board. The second tier, numbering approximately 75 people, consists of those people who want to be called for, and will generally show up at, important City Council meetings, advisory committee meetings, public hearings and the like. The third tier, numbering in the hundreds, are those residents who want their names to be used to give additional power through numbers to the more active and vocal members.

In the context of this project, ANI is committed to providing organizational assistance, internet research instruction, legal and scientific analyses and other technical and logistical support at no or minimal cost. By utilizing the expertise of ANI members and supporters, this project will maximize the benefits of hired professionals and provide first-hand examples of how neighborhood residents can become knowledgeable and effective environmental advocates regardless of ethnicity, economic status or physical abilities.

Past Organizational Successes:

In 1997, ANI obtained a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) from the Massachusetts Department of Protection (DEP) of \$10,000 to address contamination issues at the W.R. Grace site. These TAG funds have been primarily targeted towards consulting services to help analyze, understand and distribute information concerns about the Grace site throughout the entire Alewife area, including Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers.

ANI members have testified before the Cambridge City Council, submitted formal comments to the DEP concerning the Grace site and have made formal comments on Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) documents relevant to the Grace site. Additionally, ANI board members and supporters were vitally important in organizing a contamination testing program for a city playing field adjacent to the W. R. Grace site. With

funds made available by the city of Cambridge and other parties and individuals, ANI hired contractors to help design and supervise the testing program, analyze the results and communicate contamination issues to neighborhood residents

Members of ANI, prior to its formal incorporation as a non-profit organization, were instrumental in having the Grace site recharacterized from a Tier II site to a more serious Tier I-C site under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan

Purpose of this Project:

Despite passing out thousands of fliers in the Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers complexes, public participation on environmental issues from these complexes has been relatively small. As noted above, one ANI board member lives in Rindge Towers. The person who provides naturalist information to ANI also lives in Rindge Towers, but overall community participation from the two housing complexes has been minimal.

While this lack of public participation has been disappointing, it is hardly surprising. The populations of the two housing complexes consist of a variety of groups of minority and/or low-income people who have traditionally had a disproportionately small voice in the decisions that impact their environment. For a variety of reasons, it is very difficult for these groups to feel involved in the environmental decision-making processes, so, as a group, they frequently stay out of these processes. They often lack information on their environment because they cannot understand the base language used (English), cannot understand the technical and legal terms that form the foundation of environmental discussions (PRPs, PAHs, response actions, etc.) and cannot access the information libraries available to more affluent or educated stakeholders (no computers/knowledge to link to internet resources such as the EPA home page and lack of confidence when dealing with administrative agencies intimidates stakeholders and makes finding information/obtaining support from such agencies unnecessarily difficult).

By setting up library resources accessible to residents from these complexes the project will allow them learn more about environmental issues impacting their homes. With this knowledge will come the increased confidence necessary to take part in environmental discussions and decisionmaking processes, an empowerment that strikes at the heart of environmental justice.

Absolutely everyone who wishes to be involved in this project will have that opportunity, to whatever extent they wish. These varied levels of involvement will allow residents to seek their own level of empowerment. Where some residents may be able to dedicate massive amounts of time and energy to this project and become environmental experts themselves, others may only have the time to learn more about how air pollutants from idling cars and busses on the highway by their apartment building impact their children's asthma. No one will be scared away or intimidated by feeling that they have to give up their personal lives to be a part of this project.

The existence of ANI's three levels of organization will be a force multiplier for the project funded by the Environmental Justice Grant, ensuring that the residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers become part of a dynamic whole even as they are individually becoming more empowered.

Constant flyering, press releases, North Cambridge News articles and public meetings, as well as ever-present word of mouth advertising, will ensure that residents are aware of this project. By focusing the project specifically on the inhabitants of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park, it will be easier to reach critical mass and get more residents of these complexes involved in environmental activities.

Environmental Justice Community Target Audience:

The Target Community for this project is the three high-rise apartment buildings at 362, 364 and 402 Rindge Avenue (Rindge Towers) and 1 Jackson Place (Jefferson Park).

Each of the three Rindge Towers consists of 250 units. 402 Rindge Ave is currently owned by Just-a-Start Corporation, a non-profit that focuses on providing affordable housing to low and moderate income families. 362 and 364 are privately owned, although they have been regulated by HUD for the past twenty years. In all three of these buildings, a large number of residents are of minority backgrounds and of low or moderate income.

Jefferson Park is a cluster of three-story affordable housing buildings owned by the city of Cambridge Housing Authority. These buildings contain 284 units that are primarily occupied by low or moderate income residents, the majority of whom are minorities.

All of these buildings have tenants' associations, but these groups are more focused on direct tenant issues such as crime, poor lighting and public services. There is some cross-over of tenant activists from these issues into the environmental arena but it is far too easy for these activists, used to dealing with tangible issues such as light bulbs and police patrols, to get lost in the lexicon of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and Reportable Quantities (RQs) for hazardous material releases. For people who, on average, have a lower level of education than the greater Cambridge community and far less professional involvement in environmental issues than most more affluent communities, environmental issues might as well be in another language.

Project Completion Plans/Time Frames:

The project will be a multi-phased program that incorporates professional instruction, translation services, workgroup formation, equipment procural, environmental studies and epidemiological surveys. As conceived, this project will take place in the following steps:

- An initial survey of the Target Audience to determine its perception of the most pressing environmental issues and possible responses, along with a rough gauging of the Audience's overall environmental awareness.
- A written action plan, produced in multiple languages, that explains the environmental problems posed by hazardous waste at this site, the impacts of poor air quality on local residents, the process of creating relevant work groups, the importance of being able to access accurate information, the need to conduct proper studies and the importance of being organized when addressing environmental issues.
- Shortly after the plan is distributed, the project will start workgroups aimed at accomplishing the following goals:
 1. Creating a network of members of the target audience who are interested in environmental issues and want to work together to address these issues
 2. Educating residents on how neighborhood environmental issues may affect their health and welfare.
 3. Educating residents on how to obtain environmental information on their own. To some extent this will be hands-on training on accessing internet-based data

bases such as RCRIS or CERCLIS, visiting environmental sites such as DEP or EPA homepages and conducting net searches for particular information such as the carcinogenic potential of various chemicals. It will also involve explaining to residents how to utilize environmental bureaucracies such as the DEP and EPA, whether that be by researching regulations, contacting officials via phone or actually visiting their offices and libraries in person. Residents will also learn how to gain assistance from other environmental groups like the Conservation Law Foundation and the National Environmental Law Center.

4. Developing a data base on local health issues that may have resulted from environmental factors. In particular, this data base will focus on cancers, reproductive difficulties and breathing irregularities such as asthma that have a history of resulting from environmental conditions.
 5. Develop and carry-out an epidemiological survey of the overall Alewife area as appropriate to determine whether health problems of the inhabitants of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park differ from the health problems of residents from the surrounding neighborhoods who are, in general, wealthier and less likely to be of an ethnic background.
 6. As appropriate, the project may include air monitoring at both indoor and outdoor locations to determine the quality of the air these residents breath on a daily basis. Given that the complexes are bordered by a major state highway, a major local railroad line and a major city street and are almost adjacent to two shopping malls, the fumes from vehicular traffic stuck in traffic on a sunny July day may degrade local air quality beyond known or expected levels.
 7. On an on-going basis, develop on-site environmental resources, including an appropriate meeting room/library that will house the computer, phone, answering machine, regulations and associated environmental files. The ANI feels that having a dedicated space for environmental research in the midst of these residential properties will facilitate the networking residents need to effectively organize around environmental issues. Additionally, ANI has learned that having neighborhood meetings float from apartment to apartment makes it much harder to coordinate meetings. Finally, given the objective of empowering residents to research environmental issues on their own, it is very important that the basic informational tools be readily accessible to all interested parties. This meeting room/library will have controlled access so that valuable information/equipment remains accounted for. When the project ends, should it not become self-sustaining in this time frame, all environmental resources, including the computer, files, records and so forth will be relocated with whichever tenants' association can best further the project's goals of community environmental empowerment and data collection and allow ready access to these resources to all members of the Target Audience.
- The proposed timeframe for completing this project is as follows:
 - 1 October, 1998: Create and distribute surveys.

1 November, 1998 Creation and distribution of action plans.

1 December, 1998 Begin forming and holding working groups focused on environmental issues.

1 December, 1998: Locate and begin to equip meeting room/library.

1-January, 1999- December 1999: Hold regular working group meetings in meeting room/library to educate residents on environmental issues, environmental networking procedures and environmental research procedures.

1 January, 1999: Distribute initial environmental questionnaire.

1 January, 1999: Develop air quality sampling plan.

1 February, 1999: Begin air quality sampling.

1 March 1999: Hold public meeting to review initial survey results, begin development of area wide health survey.

1 June, 1999: Hold public meeting to review area-wide health study.

1 August, 1999: Hold public meeting to review all environmental data obtained thus far relating to environmental issues relevant to Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park.

1 October, 1999: Produce booklet, in multiple languages, that describes environmental issues at the Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park housing complexes and instructs interested parties on how to obtain more information and make their voices heard on environmental issues.

Expected Results:

1. At the end of this twelve month project, it is expected that any interested individual in Rindge Towers or Jefferson Park who has been involved with this project will be able to research environmental issues to the extent he or she wishes with minimal assistance.
2. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that a network of interested, active and knowledgeable environmental advocates will exist in both Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park. The members of this network, in addition to being able to research issues independently, will be able to assist one another in environmental work and to look beyond their immediate communities to obtain assistance from other individuals and groups.
3. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that the Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers communities will have a readily accessible environmental library, including access to on-line information and files of data on environmental issues related to living conditions at these housing complexes.
4. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that there will be a solid data base that will indicate whether the target audience suffers from environmentally related illnesses any more than members of the surrounding communities.
5. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that there will be data indicating the impact of heavy traffic in the neighborhood and buried hazardous waste on air quality in and around these houses complexes.

Budget:

EXPENSES:

Computer, modem and printer	\$2,000
Internet Access	300
Environmental engineer (40 hours @ \$50/hour)	2,000
Air monitoring (indoor and outdoor samples)	1,700
Epidemiology researcher (30 hours @ \$50/hour)	1,800
Project Coordinator (150 hours @ \$18/hour)	2,700
Translators (60 hours @ \$20/hour)	1,200
Survey takers (4 - 40 hours ea. @ \$10/hour)	1,600
Data entry workers (2 - 20 hours ea. @ \$10/hour)	400
Desktop publisher (10 hours @ \$25/hour)	250
Computer consultant (20 hours @ \$25/hour)	500
Printing & copying	1,500
Postage	100
Paper & other office supplies	300
Phone line(s)	750
Office Space	2500
Travel	400
Total	<u>\$20,000</u>

INCOME:

Environmental Justice Grant	\$20,000
Total	<u>\$20,000</u>

1. The environmental engineer will review existing site data, monitor new data collection and present the findings to members of the community. The Epidemiology researcher will design a neighborhood health survey and interpret the data collected. The computer consultant will design a database for health survey data input, analysis, and reporting and will also assist in setting up the computer with relevant programs, security codes and so forth. The desktop publisher will design and prepare a report of the findings (in newsletter format) for neighborhood distribution.
2. The Project Coordinator will work in conjunction with ANI and Target Audience member oversight. The Coordinator will monitor access to the library, ensure all bills are validated and forwarded for payment, will organize and monitor distribution of materials and will, in general, run the project's day-to-day operations. While the coordinator would not be expected to be an expert in environmental issues, he or she should be a person who has a working knowledge of relevant environmental issues. The need for environmental awareness may have to be balanced against the ability to effectively interact with the Target Audience and can, by example and by instruction, use this project to help members of the Target Audience maximize their organizational potential.

3. Technical advisors will submit summary reports of their findings to people involved or interested in the project and be available at neighborhood-wide meetings, as well as meetings of the Cambridge City Council and/or other City officials, to discuss their findings

C.

How ANI is Community-Based and Plans to Involve Target Audience in the Project:

1. ANI is a non-profit whose Board members come solely from the Alewife area of North Cambridge. At least one member of the Board is a member of the Target Audience and other individuals who are active in ANI issues but are not Board members are also members of the Target Audience. In all of its activities, ANI has been an all-inclusive neighborhood group, seeking to build community consensus behind environmental issues and trying to involve members of all Alewife communities in environmental discussions. ANI members have distributed thousands of fliers to the Target Audience on issues regarding the greater Alewife area, have held public meetings in and around Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park and have written about environmental issues in newspapers distributed to the Target Audience.
2. ANI views the Target Audience's involvement in this project as essential to its success. All technical advisors, whether paid or volunteer, will be tasked with instructing members of the Target Audience on their area(s) of expertise. Advisors will be encouraged to utilize members of the Target Audience as assistants to maximize the learning curve and ensure that environmental advocacy can and will take place even if the advisors are no longer providing assistance. Members of the Target Audience will be encouraged to utilize the resource room for research, networking and strategic planning purposes. Since the purpose of this project is to empower the Target Audience, anything less than full participation by the residents of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park would keep the project from becoming a full and on-going success.
3. This project will identify two thousand-plus members of the Target Audience speak multiple languages, it is difficult for them to communicate and organize around environmental issues. By gathering individuals who are concerned about environmental issues together for focus groups and instruction, this project will create a solid infrastructure for future environmental advocacy.
4. This project will also enhance community understanding of environmental and public health information systems and generate information on pollution in the community. While Target Audience members typically lack the specialized education or professional experience to understand complex environmental issues, there is no reason why they cannot learn more about these issues and how to act on their environmental concerns. By making environmental resources accessible to these inhabitants and providing knowledgeable neighborhood residents to explain complex issues, the project will help the Target Audience build the skills needed to be proactive on environmental issues.
5. Epidemiological information collected from the Target Audience as part of this project will require direct the Audience's direct involvement in the project and should spark interest in further project activities.

D. Conclusion

How ANI will Evaluate and Measure the Success of the Project

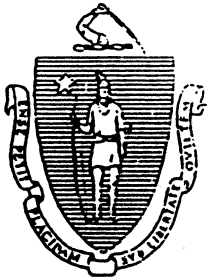
1. Because the primary goal of this project is to empower the Target Audience to research environmental issues and develop environmental programs on its own initiative, the number of actual participants will be very important. It is vital that, at the end of the project, a significant cross-section of the Target Audience has received a level of environmental education and training appropriate to the particular individuals involved. We must have leaders and advocates of a variety of backgrounds with a variety of skills who are members of the Target Audience. There must be a larger number of interested individuals who have the relevant skills and are willing to put some energy into organizing, researching or developing environmental projects. And an overwhelming percentage of the Target Audience must have gained new knowledge and understanding of the environmental issues that face their communities. If, after 12 months, the Target Audience is not capable of addressing environmental issues with a minimum of outside assistance, the project will have been a failure. If, after 12 months, the Target Audience can research, organize and carry out its own environmental projects based on environmental issues as perceived by Audience members, the project will have been a success.
2. The secondary goal of this project is to develop new data about how local environmental issues impact the Target Audience. If this data is successfully compiled and disseminated in an accurate, understandable and professionally acceptable way, this part of the project will have been a success. If, after the surveys, studies and monitoring is done, there is no data of professionally acceptable quality that can be understood by the Target Audience, then this part of the project will have been a failure.

Anticipated Benefits of Project

1. By empowering the members of the Target Audience to understand and act on environmental issues, the project will help give them a stronger voice in determining how they will be impacted by their environment. Poor organization, ignorance of technical issues, intimidation in the face of large bureaucracies and a traditional attitude of "going along to get along" can only be countered by education and greater community support. This project will provide both of these items to members of the Target Audience, allowing them, at the completion of the project, to stand confidently behind their own abilities and opinions and become a strong and informed voice in the environmental discussions in and around their communities.
2. This project will develop some hard data about environmental issues facing the Target Audience, including air quality and environmentally-related illnesses. Poor air quality may be exacerbated by increased traffic along the adjacent highway. Fumes from hazardous waste leaking through foundation cracks may be causing toxic injuries. By analyzing indoor and outdoor air quality, this project will help determine whether the Target Audience faces such threats. Additionally, solid data on environmental illnesses citizens and public servants alike to frame the discussion of environmental issues at the Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park complexes around real life facts rather than rumors and hearsay.

Challenges in Implementing the Project

1. Getting truly committed and capable people involved in any public project where considerable investiture of time and energy is needed on a regular basis can be an insurmountable task. While not all members of the Target Audience need to meet such levels of dedication, there needs to be a core group of roughly ten or twelve people, from a variety of backgrounds, who can meet this task, who can become the leaders of this project when the training and outside support is over. Finding and keeping these people is going to be very difficult. By presenting a professional and consistent appearance over the course of this project, aided considerably by having a dedicated space from which to run the project, ANI believes it can attract truly qualified people who realize that environmental issues are important and see a unique chance to empower themselves.
2. Having a dozen or so leaders is not enough. They must have a larger group of people to organize, educate and lead. Obtaining and maintaining the numbers of mid-level supporters the project needs to reach critical mass will be very difficult as well. People have their own lives to lead- jobs, families, hobbies. Time spent on this project will be time not spent on other matters and the people most likely to be active in this project are, in general, people who already have busy lives. However, by getting the Target Audience to recognize how important environmental issues are to the health and welfare of themselves and their families and by ensuring all contact with the project is productive, professional and enjoyable, ANI believes it can attract and keep the necessary numbers of mid-level supporters.
3. ANI members must stay committed to this project, not only for the initial twelve months but for as long as environmental issues pose a problem for the residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers. Competing interests and other environmental threats facing the Alewife area will drain ANI of some of the resources needed to support this project. However, through the solid leadership and management demonstrated thus far by the ANI Board and its supporters, it is very likely that there will always be more than enough ANI support for this project.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WASTE SITE CLEANUP

WILLIAM F. WELD
Governor

MARCO PAUL CELLINO
Lt. Governor

TRUDY COXE
Secretary

DAVID B. STRUHS
Commissioner

List of Tier 1 Disposal Sites

June 1997

Town	Address	Site Name/Location Aid	Site ID	Status
CAMBRIDGE - Failure to Meet Deadline				
	25 FURNACE POND PKWY	CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPT	3-0010625	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. No release 3. No release at a site.			
	217 CAMDEN ST	BRISTON ARMS APARTMENTS	3-0001660	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. Gasoline released in a residence.			
	180 GREEN ST	BRIKLAUSER	3-0000659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	180-180 GREEN ST	PROPERTY	3-0002755	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. Gasoline released at a property from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in an unknown.			
	126 JACKSON ST	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	3-0004330	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 2 2. Pesticides and inorganic chemicals released at a commercial site resulting in a release to the soil and a threat to the groundwater.			
	789 MAIN ST	CHRISTIAN MISSION CHURCH	3-0002807	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. Petroleum and virgin oil released at a spill site and a church from a leaking aboveground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil and a groundwater release.			
	155 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	PROPERTY	3-0001661	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. No release at a site			
	257 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	AMOCO (FMR) #4333	3-0000708	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. No release at a site			
	MASSACHUSETTS AVE/THROWBRD	NO LOCATION AID	3-0012234	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. No release 3. No release at a site.			
	25-27 RESERVOIR ST	NO LOCATION AID	3-0011759	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. No release 3. No release at a site.			
	RENDGE AVE	JEFFERSON PARK APTS	3-0001657	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	RENDGE AVE	RENDGE TOWERS APARTMENTS	3-0001659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. Release in a residence.			
	18 R SMITH ST	PROPERTY	3-0002895	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1 2. Gasoline released at a commercial site from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil			
	185 MAIN ST	ADLEY EXPRESS SITE (FMR)	3-0000940	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			

Town	Address	Site Name/Location Aid	Site ID	Status
CAMBRIDGE - Failure to Meet Deadline				
	250 FINESLAND PKWY Phase 1 1990 release Oil released at a site.	CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPT	3-0010625	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	217 CALVERT ST Phase 1 Paint released in a residence.	BRISTON ARMS APARTMENTS	3-0001660	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	180 GREEN ST Phase 1	BRIKLAUSER	3-0000659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	180-10 GREEN ST Phase 1 Gasoline released at a property from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in an unknown.	PROPERTY	3-0002755	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	126 JACKSON ST Phase 2 Pesticides and inorganic chemicals released at a commercial site resulting in a release to the soil and adjacent to the groundwater.	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	3-0004330	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	789 MAIN ST Phase 2 Petroleum and virgin oil released at a spill site and a church from a leaking aboveground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil and a groundwater release.	CHRISTIAN MISSION CHURCH	3-0002807	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	125 MASSACHUSETTS AVE Phase 1 Oil released at a site	PROPERTY	3-0001661	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	2578 MASSACHUSETTS AVE Phase 1 Oil released at a site	AMOCO (FMR) #4333	3-0000708	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	MASSACHUSETTS AVE/THROWBRID Phase 1 1990 release Oil released at a site.	NO LOCATION AID	3-0012234	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	25-27 RESERVOIR ST Phase 1 1990 release Oil released at a site.	NO LOCATION AID	3-0011759	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	6 RANDGE AVE Phase 1	JEFFERSON PARK APTS	3-0001657	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	352-30 RINDGE AVE Phase 1 Released in a residence.	RINDGE TOWERS APARTMENTS	3-0001659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	3-8 SMITH ST Phase 1 Petroleum released at a commercial site from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil.	PROPERTY	3-0002895	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	5155 - 1 ST Phase 1	ADLEY EXPRESS SITE (FMR)	3-0000940	DEFAULT TIER 1B



City of Cambridge

31.

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 4, 1998

COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR DUEHAY
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record in support of the Environmental Justice Grant submitted by North Cambridge residents. (see attached)

CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN.

6 Saint Gerard Terrace
Cambridge, MA 02140
15 April, 1998

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
98 APR 16 AM 11:34
CAMBRIDGE MA.

13

Dear Council Members:

Alewife Neighbors, Inc. (ANI) has applied for a \$20,000 Environmental Justice grant from the EPA. As the enclosed application describes, this grant would be used to develop an environmental advocacy and networking group within Jefferson Park and the three Rindge Towers. We have determined that both Jefferson Park and the Towers sit on top of Tier I-B hazardous waste sites (see enclosed list¹) and adjacent to a Tier I-C site (W.R. Grace). Additionally, these housing complexes sit astride or near major surface roads, parking lots and a railroad with all the negative impacts that this location has on air quality. Unfortunately, the residents of these complexes, like many disadvantaged groups, frequently do not have the necessary combination of knowledge and finances necessary to protect themselves against these everyday environmental threats.

This grant is ANI's attempt to help empower this traditionally unempowered group in the arena of environmental awareness and advocacy. We feel that it is important to help teach the residents of these housing complexes how to proactively and efficiently participate in the environmental decision-making processes that affect them and their families. In this context, this grant would fund an important project that strikes at the heart of environmental justice.

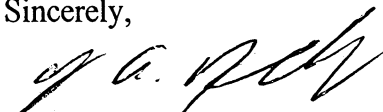
While we believe that the grant application is tightly crafted, we feel that a letter of support from your office would be very helpful in obtaining these important funds. As you know, ANI's history of neighborhood environmental advocacy, including obtaining and dispensing DEP's Technical Assistance Grant and assisting in the environmental sampling of Russell Field and Parkway Pond, is a model of citizen advocacy and neighborhood building. We believe that the same skillsets that have made ANI successful thus far would help us maximize the EPA's environmental justice grant and build an effective environmental network in the target community of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers.

We respectfully request that the Cambridge City Council pass an resolution supporting this important grant application and forward a copy to the EPA point of contact. Her name and address are: Rhona Julien, USEPA Region I (RAA), JFK Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203. Ms. Julien may be reached at phone at 617-565-9454. These are hotly contested funds and we need all the help we can get in obtaining them.

As always, I may be reached at 617-354-8353 or via email at VoteCraig@Juno.com should you have any questions about this grant application or any other North Cambridge issue.

Thank you very much for you assistance.

Sincerely,



Craig A. Kelley, Esq.

¹ To obtain a copy of this list, visit DEP's online information center at [HTTP://WWW.Magnet.state.ma.us/deplist.htm](http://WWW.Magnet.state.ma.us/deplist.htm). For specific assistance in locating this information, please call me at 617-354-8353.

1998 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SMALL GRANT APPLICATION
JEFFERSON PARK/RINDGE TOWERS HOUSING COMPLEXES
NORTH CAMBRIDGE, MA 02140

Submitted by Alewife, Neighbors, Inc. Point of Contact: Craig A. Kelley, 6 Saint Gerard Terrace, Cambridge, MA 02140 617-354-8353 Email: Votecraig@Juno.

A. ONE PAGE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TARGET AUDIENCE:

The Target Audience consists of the inhabitants of the housing complexes at 362 and 364 Rindge Avenue (Fresh Pond Apartments), 402 Rindge Avenue (Just a Start) and 1 Jackson Place (Jefferson Park). Because of their looming, multi-story size, the three buildings on Rindge Avenue are referred to collectively as "Rindge Towers." Each of the three towers contains 250 units and Jefferson Park, which is made of numerous low-rise buildings, has 284 units. The inhabitants of these complexes consist predominately of minority and/or low-income residents of many ethnicities, including Latino, African-American, Asian and Caribbean backgrounds. Many residents are not proficient in English and a large number are either elderly or have disabilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT:

Clean Air Act (CAA)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT:

The residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers consist of numerous minority and low-income groups who have traditionally been unable to effectively present their concerns to environmental decision-making bodies. Located on top of two suspected hazardous waste sites, across the street from a third and adjacent to or near numerous air pollutant sources, including a major state highway, these housing complexes pose the classic problem of unempowered stakeholders facing environmental threats that are beyond their current abilities to handle.

PROGRAM GOALS THE PROJECT WILL MEET AND HOW IT WILL MEET THEM:

1. Identify necessary improvements in communication and coordination among stakeholders:

With over twenty-five hundred residents speaking over 5 major languages and additional dialects, it is difficult for individuals to know which other residents are interested in or knowledgeable about local environmental concerns. This project will create a solid informational infrastructure, including focused work groups and local points of contact for environmental questions, that will allow interested residents to coordinate among themselves when addressing environmental issues.

2. Enhance community understanding of environmental and public health information systems and generate information on pollution in the community:

The inhabitants of these complexes typically do not understand environmental terms, do not have the knowledge to effectively access environmental resources and have no experience dealing with environmental agencies. As a result, they have very little actual knowledge of environmental and public health information systems or issues. By making environmental resources accessible, developing environmental illness data and providing knowledgeable neighborhood residents to explain complex issues, the project will help the target audience build skills needed to be proactive on environmental issues.

B.

Nature of Organization.

The Alewife Neighbors, Inc. (ANI) is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1997 under Massachusetts state law to address environmental issues in the Alewife area of North Cambridge. This corner of Cambridge contains approximately 2500 households, including the over 1000 housing units associated with Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers, and roughly 6,000 residents. Much of the Alewife area has a history of heavy industrial use as brickyards, chemical manufacturing plants or auto-related services. This industrial history has resulted in several properties within the Alewife area being listed on the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) as Tier I or Tier II hazardous waste sites. Of primary importance, the W.R. Grace site, across the street from Rindge Towers, is a listed Tier I-C site. Both Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers are reportedly located on listed hazardous waste sites.

ANI is governed by a nine-member board of neighborhood residents, including one resident from Rindge Towers. The Board's professional expertise includes construction, education and consulting. Individuals active in ANI issues include attorneys, environmental scientists, environmental consultants, public safety officials and at least one traffic engineer.

ANI has three tiers of volunteers. The first tier is the Board. Traditionally, Board members are those who are willing to come to regular meetings and to help tackle specific projects such as assisting with outreach or conducting regulatory research. ANI is constantly looking for new Board members and it is hoped that as residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers learn more about environmental issues and how they can be involved, more of them will choose to become members of the ANI Board. The second tier, numbering approximately 75 people, consists of those people who want to be called for, and will generally show up at, important City Council meetings, advisory committee meetings, public hearings and the like. The third tier, numbering in the hundreds, are those residents who want their names to be used to give additional power through numbers to the more active and vocal members.

In the context of this project, ANI is committed to providing organizational assistance, internet research instruction, legal and scientific analyses and other technical and logistical support at no or minimal cost. By utilizing the expertise of ANI members and supporters, this project will maximize the benefits of hired professionals and provide first-hand examples of how neighborhood residents can become knowledgeable and effective environmental advocates regardless of ethnicity, economic status or physical abilities.

Past Organizational Successes:

In 1997, ANI obtained a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) from the Massachusetts Department of Protection (DEP) of \$10,000 to address contamination issues at the W.R. Grace site. These TAG funds have been primarily targeted towards consulting services to help analyze, understand and distribute information concerns about the Grace site throughout the entire Alewife area, including Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers.

ANI members have testified before the Cambridge City Council, submitted formal comments to the DEP concerning the Grace site and have made formal comments on Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) documents relevant to the Grace site. Additionally, ANI board members and supporters were vitally important in organizing a contamination testing program for a city playing field adjacent to the W. R. Grace site. With

funds made available by the city of Cambridge and other parties and individuals, ANI hired contractors to help design and supervise the testing program, analyze the results and communicate contamination issues to neighborhood residents.

Members of ANI, prior to its formal incorporation as a non-profit organization, were instrumental in having the Grace site recharacterized from a Tier II site to a more serious Tier I-C site under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan

Purpose of this Project:

Despite passing out thousands of fliers in the Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers complexes, public participation on environmental issues from these complexes has been relatively small. As noted above, one ANI board member lives in Rindge Towers. The person who provides naturalist information to ANI also lives in Rindge Towers, but overall community participation from the two housing complexes has been minimal.

While this lack of public participation has been disappointing, it is hardly surprising. The populations of the two housing complexes consist of a variety of groups of minority and/or low-income people who have traditionally had a disproportionately small voice in the decisions that impact their environment. For a variety of reasons, it is very difficult for these groups to feel involved in the environmental decision-making processes, so, as a group, they frequently stay out of these processes. They often lack information on their environment because they cannot understand the base language used (English), cannot understand the technical and legal terms that form the foundation of environmental discussions (PRPs, PAHs, response actions, etc.) and cannot access the information libraries available to more affluent or educated stakeholders (no computers/knowledge to link to internet resources such as the EPA home page and lack of confidence when dealing with administrative agencies intimidates stakeholders and makes finding information/obtaining support from such agencies unnecessarily difficult).

By setting up library resources accessible to residents from these complexes the project will allow them learn more about environmental issues impacting their homes. With this knowledge will come the increased confidence necessary to take part in environmental discussions and decisionmaking processes, an empowerment that strikes at the heart of environmental justice.

Absolutely everyone who wishes to be involved in this project will have that opportunity, to whatever extent they wish. These varied levels of involvement will allow residents to seek their own level of empowerment. Where some residents may be able to dedicate massive amounts of time and energy to this project and become environmental experts themselves, others may only have the time to learn more about how air pollutants from idling cars and busses on the highway by their apartment building impact their children's asthma. No one will be scared away or intimidated by feeling that they have to give up their personal lives to be a part of this project.

The existence of ANI's three levels of organization will be a force multiplier for the project funded by the Environmental Justice Grant, ensuring that the residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers become part of a dynamic whole even as they are individually becoming more empowered.

Constant flyering, press releases, North Cambridge News articles and public meetings, as well as ever-present word of mouth advertising, will ensure that residents are aware of this project. By focusing the project specifically on the inhabitants of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park, it will be easier to reach critical mass and get more residents of these complexes involved in environmental activities.

Environmental Justice Community Target Audience:

The Target Community for this project is the three high-rise apartment buildings at 362, 364 and 402 Rindge Avenue (Rindge Towers) and 1 Jackson Place (Jefferson Park).

Each of the three Rindge Towers consists of 250 units. 402 Rindge Ave is currently owned by Just-a-Start Corporation, a non-profit that focuses on providing affordable housing to low and moderate income families. 362 and 364 are privately owned, although they have been regulated by HUD for the past twenty years. In all three of these buildings, a large number of residents are of minority backgrounds and of low or moderate income.

Jefferson Park is a cluster of three-story affordable housing buildings owned by the city of Cambridge Housing Authority. These buildings contain 284 units that are primarily occupied by low or moderate income residents, the majority of whom are minorities.

All of these buildings have tenants' associations, but these groups are more focused on direct tenant issues such as crime, poor lighting and public services. There is some cross-over of tenant activists from these issues into the environmental arena but it is far too easy for these activists, used to dealing with tangible issues such as light bulbs and police patrols, to get lost in the lexicon of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and Reportable Quantities (RQs) for hazardous material releases. For people who, on average, have a lower level of education than the greater Cambridge community and far less professional involvement in environmental issues than most more affluent communities, environmental issues might as well be in another language.

Project Completion Plans/Time Frames:

The project will be a multi-phased program that incorporates professional instruction, translation services, workgroup formation, equipment procural, environmental studies and epidemiological surveys. As conceived, this project will take place in the following steps:

- An initial survey of the Target Audience to determine its perception of the most pressing environmental issues and possible responses, along with a rough gauging of the Audience's overall environmental awareness.
- A written action plan, produced in multiple languages, that explains the environmental problems posed by hazardous waste at this site, the impacts of poor air quality on local residents, the process of creating relevant work groups, the importance of being able to access accurate information, the need to conduct proper studies and the importance of being organized when addressing environmental issues.
- Shortly after the plan is distributed, the project will start workgroups aimed at accomplishing the following goals:
 1. Creating a network of members of the target audience who are interested in environmental issues and want to work together to address these issues
 2. Educating residents on how neighborhood environmental issues may affect their health and welfare.
 3. Educating residents on how to obtain environmental information on their own. To some extent this will be hands-on training on accessing internet-based data

bases such as RCRIS or CERCLIS, visiting environmental sites such as DEP or EPA homepages and conducting net searches for particular information such as the carcinogenic potential of various chemicals. It will also involve explaining to residents how to utilize environmental bureaucracies such as the DEP and EPA, whether that be by researching regulations, contacting officials via phone or actually visiting their offices and libraries in person. Residents will also learn how to gain assistance from other environmental groups like the Conservation Law Foundation and the National Environmental Law Center.

4. Developing a data base on local health issues that may have resulted from environmental factors. In particular, this data base will focus on cancers, reproductive difficulties and breathing irregularities such as asthma that have a history of resulting from environmental conditions.
 5. Develop and carry-out an epidemiological survey of the overall Alewife area as appropriate to determine whether health problems of the inhabitants of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park differ from the health problems of residents from the surrounding neighborhoods who are, in general, wealthier and less likely to be of an ethnic background.
 6. As appropriate, the project may include air monitoring at both indoor and outdoor locations to determine the quality of the air these residents breath on a daily basis. Given that the complexes are bordered by a major state highway, a major local railroad line and a major city street and are almost adjacent to two shopping malls, the fumes from vehicular traffic stuck in traffic on a sunny July day may degrade local air quality beyond known or expected levels.
 7. On an on-going basis, develop on-site environmental resources, including an appropriate meeting room/library that will house the computer, phone, answering machine, regulations and associated environmental files. The ANI feels that having a dedicated space for environmental research in the midst of these residential properties will facilitate the networking residents need to effectively organize around environmental issues. Additionally, ANI has learned that having neighborhood meetings float from apartment to apartment makes it much harder to coordinate meetings. Finally, given the objective of empowering residents to research environmental issues on their own, it is very important that the basic informational tools be readily accessible to all interested parties. This meeting room/library will have controlled access so that valuable information/equipment remains accounted for. When the project ends, should it not become self-sustaining in this time frame, all environmental resources, including the computer, files, records and so forth will be relocated with whichever tenants' association can best further the project's goals of community environmental empowerment and data collection and allow ready access to these resources to all members of the Target Audience.
- The proposed timeframe for completing this project is as follows:
 - 1 October, 1998: Create and distribute surveys.

- 1 November, 1998: Creation and distribution of action plans.
- 1 December, 1998: Begin forming and holding working groups focused on environmental issues.
- 1 December, 1998: Locate and begin to equip meeting room/library.
- 1-January, 1999- December 1999: Hold regular working group meetings in meeting room/library to educate residents on environmental issues, environmental networking procedures and environmental research procedures.
- 1 January, 1999: Distribute initial environmental questionnaire.
- 1 January, 1999: Develop air quality sampling plan.
- 1 February, 1999: Begin air quality sampling.
- 1 March 1999: Hold public meeting to review initial survey results, begin development of area wide health survey.
- 1 June, 1999: Hold public meeting to review area-wide health study.
- 1 August, 1999: Hold public meeting to review all environmental data obtained thus far relating to environmental issues relevant to Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park.
- 1 October, 1999: Produce booklet, in multiple languages, that describes environmental issues at the Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park housing complexes and instructs interested parties on how to obtain more information and make their voices heard on environmental issues.

Expected Results:

1. At the end of this twelve month project, it is expected that any interested individual in Rindge Towers or Jefferson Park who has been involved with this project will be able to research environmental issues to the extent he or she wishes with minimal assistance.
2. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that a network of interested, active and knowledgeable environmental advocates will exist in both Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park. The members of this network, in addition to being able to research issues independently, will be able to assist one another in environmental work and to look beyond their immediate communities to obtain assistance from other individuals and groups.
3. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that the Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers communities will have a readily accessible environmental library, including access to on-line information and files of data on environmental issues related to living conditions at these housing complexes.
4. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that there will be a solid data base that will indicate whether the target audience suffers from environmentally related illnesses any more than members of the surrounding communities.
5. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that there will be data indicating the impact of heavy traffic in the neighborhood and buried hazardous waste on air quality in and around these houses complexes.

Budget:

EXPENSES:

Computer, modem and printer	\$2,000
Internet Access	300
Environmental engineer (40 hours @ \$50/hour)	2,000
Air monitoring (indoor and outdoor samples)	1,700
Epidemiology researcher (30 hours @ \$50/hour)	1,800
Project Coordinator (150 hours @ \$18/hour)	2,700
Translators (60 hours @ \$20/hour)	1,200
Survey takers (4 - 40 hours ea. @ \$10/hour)	1,600
Data entry workers (2 - 20 hours ea. @ \$10/hour)	400
Desktop publisher (10 hours @ \$25/hour)	250
Computer consultant (20 hours @ \$25/hour)	500
Printing & copying	1,500
Postage	100
Paper & other office supplies	300
Phone line(s)	750
Office Space	2500
Travel	400
	<hr/>
Total	\$20,000

INCOME:

Environmental Justice Grant	\$20,000
	<hr/>
Total	\$20,000

1. The environmental engineer will review existing site data, monitor new data collection and present the findings to members of the community. The Epidemiology researcher will design a neighborhood health survey and interpret the data collected. The computer consultant will design a database for health survey data input, analysis, and reporting and will also assist in setting up the computer with relevant programs, security codes and so forth. The desktop publisher will design and prepare a report of the findings (in newsletter format) for neighborhood distribution.
2. The Project Coordinator will work in conjunction with ANI and Target Audience member oversight. The Coordinator will monitor access to the library, ensure all bills are validated and forwarded for payment, will organize and monitor distribution of materials and will, in general, run the project's day-to-day operations. While the coordinator would not be expected to be an expert in environmental issues, he or she should be a person who has a working knowledge of relevant environmental issues. The need for environmental awareness may have to be balanced against the ability to effectively interact with the Target Audience and can, by example and by instruction, use this project to help members of the Target Audience maximize their organizational potential.

3. Technical advisors will submit summary reports of their findings to people involved or interested in the project and be available at neighborhood-wide meetings, as well as meetings of the Cambridge City Council and/or other City officials, to discuss their findings

C.

How ANI is Community-Based and Plans to Involve Target Audience in the Project:

1. ANI is a non-profit whose Board members come solely from the Alewife area of North Cambridge. At least one member of the Board is a member of the Target Audience and other individuals who are active in ANI issues but are not Board members are also members of the Target Audience. In all of its activities, ANI has been an all-inclusive neighborhood group, seeking to build community consensus behind environmental issues and trying to involve members of all Alewife communities in environmental discussions. ANI members have distributed thousands of fliers to the Target Audience on issues regarding the greater Alewife area, have held public meetings in and around Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park and have written about environmental issues in newspapers distributed to the Target Audience.
2. ANI views the Target Audience's involvement in this project as essential to its success. All technical advisors, whether paid or volunteer, will be tasked with instructing members of the Target Audience on their area(s) of expertise. Advisors will be encouraged to utilize members of the Target Audience as assistants to maximize the learning curve and ensure that environmental advocacy can and will take place even if the advisors are no longer providing assistance. Members of the Target Audience will be encouraged to utilize the resource room for research, networking and strategic planning purposes. Since the purpose of this project is to empower the Target Audience, anything less than full participation by the residents of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park would keep the project from becoming a full and on-going success.
3. This project will identify two thousand-plus members of the Target Audience speak multiple languages, it is difficult for them to communicate and organize around environmental issues. By gathering individuals who are concerned about environmental issues together for focus groups and instruction, this project will create a solid infrastructure for future environmental advocacy.
4. This project will also enhance community understanding of environmental and public health information systems and generate information on pollution in the community. While Target Audience members typically lack the specialized education or professional experience to understand complex environmental issues, there is no reason why they cannot learn more about these issues and how to act on their environmental concerns. By making environmental resources accessible to these inhabitants and providing knowledgeable neighborhood residents to explain complex issues, the project will help the Target Audience build the skills needed to be proactive on environmental issues.
5. Epidemiological information collected from the Target Audience as part of this project will require direct the Audience's direct involvement in the project and should spark interest in further project activities.

D. Conclusion

How ANI will Evaluate and Measure the Success of the Project

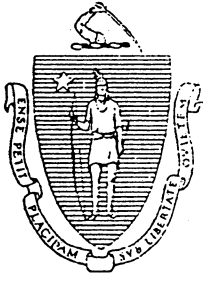
1. Because the primary goal of this project is to empower the Target Audience to research environmental issues and develop environmental programs on its own initiative, the number of actual participants will be very important. It is vital that, at the end of the project, a significant cross-section of the Target Audience has received a level of environmental education and training appropriate to the particular individuals involved. We must have leaders and advocates of a variety of backgrounds with a variety of skills who are members of the Target Audience. There must be a larger number of interested individuals who have the relevant skills and are willing to put some energy into organizing, researching or developing environmental projects. And an overwhelming percentage of the Target Audience must have gained new knowledge and understanding of the environmental issues that face their communities. If, after 12 months, the Target Audience is not capable of addressing environmental issues with a minimum of outside assistance, the project will have been a failure. If, after 12 months, the Target Audience can research, organize and carry out its own environmental projects based on environmental issues as perceived by Audience members, the project will have been a success.
2. The secondary goal of this project is to develop new data about how local environmental issues impact the Target Audience. If this data is successfully compiled and disseminated in an accurate, understandable and professionally acceptable way, this part of the project will have been a success. If, after the surveys, studies and monitoring is done, there is no data of professionally acceptable quality that can be understood by the Target Audience, then this part of the project will have been a failure.

Anticipated Benefits of Project

1. By empowering the members of the Target Audience to understand and act on environmental issues, the project will help give them a stronger voice in determining how they will be impacted by their environment. Poor organization, ignorance of technical issues, intimidation in the face of large bureaucracies and a traditional attitude of "going along to get along" can only be countered by education and greater community support. This project will provide both of these items to members of the Target Audience, allowing them, at the completion of the project, to stand confidently behind their own abilities and opinions and become a strong and informed voice in the environmental discussions in and around their communities.
2. This project will develop some hard data about environmental issues facing the Target Audience, including air quality and environmentally-related illnesses. Poor air quality may be exacerbated by increased traffic along the adjacent highway. Fumes from hazardous waste leaking through foundation cracks may be causing toxic injuries. By analyzing indoor and outdoor air quality, this project will help determine whether the Target Audience faces such threats. Additionally, solid data on environmental illnesses citizens and public servants alike to frame the discussion of environmental issues at the Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park complexes around real life facts rather than rumors and hearsay.

Challenges in Implementing the Project

1. Getting truly committed and capable people involved in any public project where considerable investiture of time and energy is needed on a regular basis can be an insurmountable task. While not all members of the Target Audience need to meet such levels of dedication, there needs to be a core group of roughly ten or twelve people, from a variety of backgrounds, who can meet this task, who can become the leaders of this project when the training and outside support is over. Finding and keeping these people is going to be very difficult. By presenting a professional and consistent appearance over the course of this project, aided considerably by having a dedicated space from which to run the project, ANI believes it can attract truly qualified people who realize that environmental issues are important and see a unique chance to empower themselves.
2. Having a dozen or so leaders is not enough. They must have a larger group of people to organize, educate and lead. Obtaining and maintaining the numbers of mid-level supporters the project needs to reach critical mass will be very difficult as well. People have their own lives to lead- jobs, families, hobbies. Time spent on this project will be time not spent on other matters and the people most likely to be active in this project are, in general, people who already have busy lives. However, by getting the Target Audience to recognize how important environmental issues are to the health and welfare of themselves and their families and by ensuring all contact with the project is productive, professional and enjoyable, ANI believes it can attract and keep the necessary numbers of mid-level supporters.
3. ANI members must stay committed to this project, not only for the initial twelve months but for as long as environmental issues pose a problem for the residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers. Competing interests and other environmental threats facing the Alewife area will drain ANI of some of the resources needed to support this project. However, through the solid leadership and management demonstrated thus far by the ANI Board and its supporters, it is very likely that there will always be more than enough ANI support for this project.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WASTE SITE CLEANUP

WILLIAM F. WELD
Governor

ARGEO PAUL CELLICCI
Lt. Governor

TRUDY COXE
Secretary

DAVID B. STRUHS
Commissioner

List of Tier 1 Disposal Sites

June 1997

Town	Address	Site Name/Location Aid	Site ID	Status
CAMBRIDGE - Failure to Meet Deadline				
	25 FURNBOND PKWY Phase 1 Oil release Oil released at a site.	CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPT	3-0010625	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	217 GARDEN ST Phase 1 Oil released at a residence.	BRISTON ARMS APARTMENTS	3-0001660	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	180 GREEN ST Phase 1	BRIKLAUSER	3-0000659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	180-10 GREEN ST Phase 1 Gasoline released at a property from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in an unknown.	PROPERTY	3-0002755	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	126 JACKSON ST Phase 2 Pesticides and inorganic chemicals released at a commercial site resulting in a release to the soil and a threat to the groundwater.	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	3-0004330	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	789 MAIN ST Phase 1 Petroleum and virgin oil released at a spill site and a church from a leaking aboveground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil and a groundwater release.	CHRISTIAN MISSION CHURCH	3-0002807	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	185 MASSACHUSETTS AVE Phase 1 Oil released at a site	PROPERTY	3-0001661	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	2578 MASSACHUSETTS AVE Phase 1 Oil released at a site	AMOCO (FMR) #4333	3-0000708	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	MASSACHUSETTS AVE/TROWBRID Phase 1 Oil release Oil released at a site.	NO LOCATION AID	3-0012234	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	25-27 BERRYMOIR ST Phase 1 Oil release Oil released at a site.	NO LOCATION AID	3-0011759	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	RENDGE AVE Phase 1	JEFFERSON PARK APTS	3-0001657	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	382-1 RENDGE AVE Phase 1 Oil released at a residence.	RENDGE TOWERS APARTMENTS	3-0001659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	4 B SMITH ST Phase 1 Gasoline released at a commercial site from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil	PROPERTY	3-0002895	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	5159 WEST ST Phase 1	ADLEY EXPRESS SITE (FMR)	3-0000940	DEFAULT TIER 1B

Town	Address	Site Name/Location Aid	Site ID	Status
CAMBRIDGE - Failure to Meet Deadline				
	25 FETTER POND PKWY	CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPT	3-0010625	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Fuel oil release 1 Oil released at a site.			
	217 GARDEN ST	BRISTON ARMS APARTMENTS	3-0001660	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Fuel oil release in a residence.			
	180 GREEN ST	BRIKLAUSER	3-0000659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1			
	180-10 GREEN ST	PROPERTY	3-0002755	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Gasoline released at a property from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in an unknown.			
	126 JACKSON ST	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	3-0004330	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 2 1 Pesticides and inorganic chemicals released at a commercial site resulting in a release to the soil and adjacent to the groundwater.			
	789 MAIN ST	CHRISTIAN MISSION CHURCH	3-0002807	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Petroleum and virgin oil released at a spill site and a church from a leaking aboveground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil and a groundwater release.			
	145 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	PROPERTY	3-0001661	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Oil released at a site			
	2578 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	AMOCO (FMR) #4333	3-0000708	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Oil released at a site			
	MASSACHUSETTS AVE/TROWBRID	NO LOCATION AID	3-0012234	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Fuel oil release 1 Oil released at a site.			
	25-27 RESERVOIR ST	NO LOCATION AID	3-0011759	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Fuel oil release 1 Oil released at a site.			
	6 RINDGE AVE	JEFFERSON PARK APTS	3-0001657	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1			
	382-30 RINDGE AVE	RINDGE TOWERS APARTMENTS	3-0001659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Fuel oil release in a residence.			
	319 SMITH ST	PROPERTY	3-0002895	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1 1 Petroleum released at a commercial site from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil			
	51 NEWBURY ST	ADLEY EXPRESS SITE (FMR)	3-0000940	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1 Phase 1			

31

KB

Support for Craig Kelley's application
for environmental education grant

Councillor Born

46

Ordered: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the city Arborist to see that the health of the magnificent copper beech tree at 2210 Mass Ave is protected during the reconstruction of North MassAve.

31

Ordered: That the City Council go on record in support of the Environmental Justice Grant submitted by North Cambridge residents. (see attached) [note: please attach material submitted by Craig Kelley in the consent communications section of last week's council agenda.]

31

Ordered: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to see that information about the Memorial Tree program is distributed to area funeral homes and churches, and is included on promotional materials for the client tree program.

47

6 Saint Gerard Terrace
Cambridge, MA 02140
15 April, 1998

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
98 APR 16 AM 11.34
CAMBRIDGE MA.

13

Dear Council Members:

Alewife Neighbors, Inc. (ANI) has applied for a \$20,000 Environmental Justice grant from the EPA. As the enclosed application describes, this grant would be used to develop an environmental advocacy and networking group within Jefferson Park and the three Rindge Towers. We have determined that both Jefferson Park and the Towers sit on top of Tier I-B hazardous waste sites (see enclosed list¹) and adjacent to a Tier I-C site (W.R. Grace). Additionally, these housing complexes sit astride or near major surface roads, parking lots and a railroad with all the negative impacts that this location has on air quality. Unfortunately, the residents of these complexes, like many disadvantaged groups, frequently do not have the necessary combination of knowledge and finances necessary to protect themselves against these everyday environmental threats.

This grant is ANI's attempt to help empower this traditionally unempowered group in the arena of environmental awareness and advocacy. We feel that it is important to help teach the residents of these housing complexes how to proactively and efficiently participate in the environmental decision-making processes that affect them and their families. In this context, this grant would fund an important project that strikes at the heart of environmental justice.

While we believe that the grant application is tightly crafted, we feel that a letter of support from your office would be very helpful in obtaining these important funds. As you know, ANI's history of neighborhood environmental advocacy, including obtaining and dispensing DEP's Technical Assistance Grant and assisting in the environmental sampling of Russell Field and Parkway Pond, is a model of citizen advocacy and neighborhood building. We believe that the same skillsets that have made ANI successful thus far would help us maximize the EPA's environmental justice grant and build an effective environmental network in the target community of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers.

We respectfully request that the Cambridge City Council pass an resolution supporting this important grant application and forward a copy to the EPA point of contact. Her name and address are: Rhona Julien, USEPA Region I (RAA), JFK Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203. Ms. Julien may be reached at phone at 617-565-9454. These are hotly contested funds and we need all the help we can get in obtaining them.

As always, I may be reached at 617-354-8353 or via email at VoteCraig@Juno.com should you have any questions about this grant application or any other North Cambridge issue.

Thank you very much for you assistance.

Sincerely,


Craig A. Kelley, Esq.

¹ To obtain a copy of this list, visit DEP's online information center at [HTTP://WWW.Magnet.state.ma.us/deplist.htm](http://WWW.Magnet.state.ma.us/deplist.htm). For specific assistance in locating this information, please call me at 617-354-8353.

1998 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SMALL GRANT APPLICATION
JEFFERSON PARK/RINDGE TOWERS HOUSING COMPLEXES
NORTH CAMBRIDGE, MA 02140

Submitted by Alewife, Neighbors, Inc. Point of Contact: Craig A. Kelley, 6 Saint Gerard Terrace, Cambridge, MA 02140 617-354-8353 Email: Votecraig@Juno.

A. ONE PAGE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TARGET AUDIENCE:

The Target Audience consists of the inhabitants of the housing complexes at 362 and 364 Rindge Avenue (Fresh Pond Apartments), 402 Rindge Avenue (Just a Start) and 1 Jackson Place (Jefferson Park). Because of their looming, multi-story size, the three buildings on Rindge Avenue are referred to collectively as "Rindge Towers." Each of the three towers contains 250 units and Jefferson Park, which is made of numerous low-rise buildings, has 284 units. The inhabitants of these complexes consist predominately of minority and/or low-income residents of many ethnicities, including Latino, African-American, Asian and Caribbean backgrounds. Many residents are not proficient in English and a large number are either elderly or have disabilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT:

Clean Air Act (CAA)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT:

The residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers consist of numerous minority and low-income groups who have traditionally been unable to effectively present their concerns to environmental decision-making bodies. Located on top of two suspected hazardous waste sites, across the street from a third and adjacent to or near numerous air pollutant sources, including a major state highway, these housing complexes pose the classic problem of unempowered stakeholders facing environmental threats that are beyond their current abilities to handle.

PROGRAM GOALS THE PROJECT WILL MEET AND HOW IT WILL MEET THEM:

1. Identify necessary improvements in communication and coordination among stakeholders:

With over twenty-five hundred residents speaking over 5 major languages and additional dialects, it is difficult for individuals to know which other residents are interested in or knowledgeable about local environmental concerns. This project will create a solid informational infrastructure, including focused work groups and local points of contact for environmental questions, that will allow interested residents to coordinate among themselves when addressing environmental issues.

2. Enhance community understanding of environmental and public health information systems and generate information on pollution in the community:

The inhabitants of these complexes typically do not understand environmental terms, do not have the knowledge to effectively access environmental resources and have no experience dealing with environmental agencies. As a result, they have very little actual knowledge of environmental and public health information systems or issues. By making environmental resources accessible, developing environmental illness data and providing knowledgeable neighborhood residents to explain complex issues, the project will help the target audience build skills needed to be proactive on environmental issues.

B.

Nature of Organization.

The Alewife Neighbors, Inc. (ANI) is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1997 under Massachusetts state law to address environmental issues in the Alewife area of North Cambridge. This corner of Cambridge contains approximately 2500 households, including the over 1000 housing units associated with Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers, and roughly 6,000 residents. Much of the Alewife area has a history of heavy industrial use as brickyards, chemical manufacturing plants or auto-related services. This industrial history has resulted in several properties within the Alewife area being listed on the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) as Tier I or Tier II hazardous waste sites. Of primary importance, the W.R. Grace site, across the street from Rindge Towers, is a listed Tier I-C site. Both Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers are reportedly located on listed hazardous waste sites.

ANI is governed by a nine-member board of neighborhood residents, including one resident from Rindge Towers. The Board's professional expertise includes construction, education and consulting. Individuals active in ANI issues include attorneys, environmental scientists, environmental consultants, public safety officials and at least one traffic engineer.

ANI has three tiers of volunteers. The first tier is the Board. Traditionally, Board members are those who are willing to come to regular meetings and to help tackle specific projects such as assisting with outreach or conducting regulatory research. ANI is constantly looking for new Board members and it is hoped that as residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers learn more about environmental issues and how they can be involved, more of them will choose to become members of the ANI Board. The second tier, numbering approximately 75 people, consists of those people who want to be called for, and will generally show up at, important City Council meetings, advisory committee meetings, public hearings and the like. The third tier, numbering in the hundreds, are those residents who want their names to be used to give additional power through numbers to the more active and vocal members.

In the context of this project, ANI is committed to providing organizational assistance, internet research instruction, legal and scientific analyses and other technical and logistical support at no or minimal cost. By utilizing the expertise of ANI members and supporters, this project will maximize the benefits of hired professionals and provide first-hand examples of how neighborhood residents can become knowledgeable and effective environmental advocates regardless of ethnicity, economic status or physical abilities.

Past Organizational Successes:

In 1997, ANI obtained a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) from the Massachusetts Department of Protection (DEP) of \$10,000 to address contamination issues at the W.R. Grace site. These TAG funds have been primarily targeted towards consulting services to help analyze, understand and distribute information concerns about the Grace site throughout the entire Alewife area, including Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers.

ANI members have testified before the Cambridge City Council, submitted formal comments to the DEP concerning the Grace site and have made formal comments on Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) documents relevant to the Grace site. Additionally, ANI board members and supporters were vitally important in organizing a contamination testing program for a city playing field adjacent to the W. R. Grace site. With

funds made available by the city of Cambridge and other parties and individuals, ANI hired contractors to help design and supervise the testing program, analyze the results and communicate contamination issues to neighborhood residents.

Members of ANI, prior to its formal incorporation as a non-profit organization, were instrumental in having the Grace site recharacterized from a Tier II site to a more serious Tier I-C site under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan

Purpose of this Project:

Despite passing out thousands of fliers in the Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers complexes, public participation on environmental issues from these complexes has been relatively small. As noted above, one ANI board member lives in Rindge Towers. The person who provides naturalist information to ANI also lives in Rindge Towers, but overall community participation from the two housing complexes has been minimal.

While this lack of public participation has been disappointing, it is hardly surprising. The populations of the two housing complexes consist of a variety of groups of minority and/or low-income people who have traditionally had a disproportionately small voice in the decisions that impact their environment. For a variety of reasons, it is very difficult for these groups to feel involved in the environmental decision-making processes, so, as a group, they frequently stay out of these processes. They often lack information on their environment because they cannot understand the base language used (English), cannot understand the technical and legal terms that form the foundation of environmental discussions (PRPs, PAHs, response actions, etc.) and cannot access the information libraries available to more affluent or educated stakeholders (no computers/knowledge to link to internet resources such as the EPA home page and lack of confidence when dealing with administrative agencies intimidates stakeholders and makes finding information/obtaining support from such agencies unnecessarily difficult).

By setting up library resources accessible to residents from these complexes the project will allow them learn more about environmental issues impacting their homes. With this knowledge will come the increased confidence necessary to take part in environmental discussions and decisionmaking processes, an empowerment that strikes at the heart of environmental justice.

Absolutely everyone who wishes to be involved in this project will have that opportunity, to whatever extent they wish. These varied levels of involvement will allow residents to seek their own level of empowerment. Where some residents may be able to dedicate massive amounts of time and energy to this project and become environmental experts themselves, others may only have the time to learn more about how air pollutants from idling cars and busses on the highway by their apartment building impact their children's asthma. No one will be scared away or intimidated by feeling that they have to give up their personal lives to be a part of this project.

The existence of ANI's three levels of organization will be a force multiplier for the project funded by the Environmental Justice Grant, ensuring that the residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers become part of a dynamic whole even as they are individually becoming more empowered.

Constant flyering, press releases, North Cambridge News articles and public meetings, as well as ever-present word of mouth advertising, will ensure that residents are aware of this project. By focusing the project specifically on the inhabitants of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park, it will be easier to reach critical mass and get more residents of these complexes involved in environmental activities.

Environmental Justice Community Target Audience:

The Target Community for this project is the three high-rise apartment buildings at 362, 364 and 402 Rindge Avenue (Rindge Towers) and 1 Jackson Place (Jefferson Park).

Each of the three Rindge Towers consists of 250 units. 402 Rindge Ave is currently owned by Just-a-Start Corporation, a non-profit that focuses on providing affordable housing to low and moderate income families. 362 and 364 are privately owned, although they have been regulated by HUD for the past twenty years. In all three of these buildings, a large number of residents are of minority backgrounds and of low or moderate income.

Jefferson Park is a cluster of three-story affordable housing buildings owned by the city of Cambridge Housing Authority. These buildings contain 284 units that are primarily occupied by low or moderate income residents, the majority of whom are minorities.

All of these buildings have tenants' associations, but these groups are more focused on direct tenant issues such as crime, poor lighting and public services. There is some cross-over of tenant activists from these issues into the environmental arena but it is far too easy for these activists, used to dealing with tangible issues such as light bulbs and police patrols, to get lost in the lexicon of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and Reportable Quantities (RQs) for hazardous material releases. For people who, on average, have a lower level of education than the greater Cambridge community and far less professional involvement in environmental issues than most more affluent communities, environmental issues might as well be in another language.

Project Completion Plans/Time Frames:

The project will be a multi-phased program that incorporates professional instruction, translation services, workgroup formation, equipment procural, environmental studies and epidemiological surveys. As conceived, this project will take place in the following steps:

- An initial survey of the Target Audience to determine its perception of the most pressing environmental issues and possible responses, along with a rough gauging of the Audience's overall environmental awareness.
- A written action plan, produced in multiple languages, that explains the environmental problems posed by hazardous waste at this site, the impacts of poor air quality on local residents, the process of creating relevant work groups, the importance of being able to access accurate information, the need to conduct proper studies and the importance of being organized when addressing environmental issues.
- Shortly after the plan is distributed, the project will start workgroups aimed at accomplishing the following goals:
 1. Creating a network of members of the target audience who are interested in environmental issues and want to work together to address these issues
 2. Educating residents on how neighborhood environmental issues may affect their health and welfare.
 3. Educating residents on how to obtain environmental information on their own. To some extent this will be hands-on training on accessing internet-based data

bases such as RCRIS or CERCLIS, visiting environmental sites such as DEP or EPA homepages and conducting net searches for particular information such as the carcinogenic potential of various chemicals. It will also involve explaining to residents how to utilize environmental bureaucracies such as the DEP and EPA, whether that be by researching regulations, contacting officials via phone or actually visiting their offices and libraries in person. Residents will also learn how to gain assistance from other environmental groups like the Conservation Law Foundation and the National Environmental Law Center.

4. Developing a data base on local health issues that may have resulted from environmental factors. In particular, this data base will focus on cancers, reproductive difficulties and breathing irregularities such as asthma that have a history of resulting from environmental conditions.
 5. Develop and carry-out an epidemiological survey of the overall Alewife area as appropriate to determine whether health problems of the inhabitants of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park differ from the health problems of residents from the surrounding neighborhoods who are, in general, wealthier and less likely to be of an ethnic background.
 6. As appropriate, the project may include air monitoring at both indoor and outdoor locations to determine the quality of the air these residents breath on a daily basis. Given that the complexes are bordered by a major state highway, a major local railroad line and a major city street and are almost adjacent to two shopping malls, the fumes from vehicular traffic stuck in traffic on a sunny July day may degrade local air quality beyond known or expected levels.
 7. On an on-going basis, develop on-site environmental resources, including an appropriate meeting room/library that will house the computer, phone, answering machine, regulations and associated environmental files. The ANI feels that having a dedicated space for environmental research in the midst of these residential properties will facilitate the networking residents need to effectively organize around environmental issues. Additionally, ANI has learned that having neighborhood meetings float from apartment to apartment makes it much harder to coordinate meetings. Finally, given the objective of empowering residents to research environmental issues on their own, it is very important that the basic informational tools be readily accessible to all interested parties. This meeting room/library will have controlled access so that valuable information/equipment remains accounted for. When the project ends, should it not become self-sustaining in this time frame, all environmental resources, including the computer, files, records and so forth will be relocated with whichever tenants' association can best further the project's goals of community environmental empowerment and data collection and allow ready access to these resources to all members of the Target Audience.
- The proposed timeframe for completing this project is as follows:
 - 1 October, 1998: Create and distribute surveys.

1 November, 1998: Creation and distribution of action plans.

1 December, 1998: Begin forming and holding working groups focused on environmental issues.

1 December, 1998: Locate and begin to equip meeting room/library.

1-January, 1999- December 1999: Hold regular working group meetings in meeting room/library to educate residents on environmental issues, environmental networking procedures and environmental research procedures.

1 January, 1999: Distribute initial environmental questionnaire.

1 January, 1999: Develop air quality sampling plan.

1 February, 1999: Begin air quality sampling.

1 March 1999: Hold public meeting to review initial survey results, begin development of area wide health survey.

1 June, 1999: Hold public meeting to review area-wide health study.

1 August, 1999: Hold public meeting to review all environmental data obtained thus far relating to environmental issues relevant to Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park.

1 October, 1999: Produce booklet, in multiple languages, that describes environmental issues at the Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park housing complexes and instructs interested parties on how to obtain more information and make their voices heard on environmental issues.

Expected Results:

1. At the end of this twelve month project, it is expected that any interested individual in Rindge Towers or Jefferson Park who has been involved with this project will be able to research environmental issues to the extent he or she wishes with minimal assistance.
2. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that a network of interested, active and knowledgeable environmental advocates will exist in both Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park. The members of this network, in addition to being able to research issues independently, will be able to assist one another in environmental work and to look beyond their immediate communities to obtain assistance from other individuals and groups.
3. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that the Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers communities will have a readily accessible environmental library, including access to on-line information and files of data on environmental issues related to living conditions at these housing complexes.
4. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that there will be a solid data base that will indicate whether the target audience suffers from environmentally related illnesses any more than members of the surrounding communities.
5. At the end of this twelve month project it is expected that there will be data indicating the impact of heavy traffic in the neighborhood and buried hazardous waste on air quality in and around these houses complexes.

Budget:

EXPENSES:

Computer, modem and printer	\$2,000
Internet Access	300
Environmental engineer (40 hours @ \$50/hour)	2,000
Air monitoring (indoor and outdoor samples)	1,700
Epidemiology researcher (30 hours @ \$50/hour)	1,800
Project Coordinator (150 hours @ \$18/hour)	2,700
Translators (60 hours @ \$20/hour)	1,200
Survey takers (4 - 40 hours ea. @ \$10/hour)	1,600
Data entry workers (2 - 20 hours ea. @ \$10/hour)	400
Desktop publisher (10 hours @ \$25/hour)	250
Computer consultant (20 hours @ \$25/hour)	500
Printing & copying	1,500
Postage	100
Paper & other office supplies	300
Phone line(s)	750
Office Space	2500
Travel	400
	<hr/>
Total	\$20,000

INCOME:

Environmental Justice Grant	\$20,000
	<hr/>
Total	\$20,000

1. The environmental engineer will review existing site data, monitor new data collection and present the findings to members of the community. The Epidemiology researcher will design a neighborhood health survey and interpret the data collected. The computer consultant will design a database for health survey data input, analysis, and reporting and will also assist in setting up the computer with relevant programs, security codes and so forth. The desktop publisher will design and prepare a report of the findings (in newsletter format) for neighborhood distribution.
2. The Project Coordinator will work in conjunction with ANI and Target Audience member oversight. The Coordinator will monitor access to the library, ensure all bills are validated and forwarded for payment, will organize and monitor distribution of materials and will, in general, run the project's day-to-day operations. While the coordinator would not be expected to be an expert in environmental issues, he or she should be a person who has a working knowledge of relevant environmental issues. The need for environmental awareness may have to be balanced against the ability to effectively interact with the Target Audience and can, by example and by instruction, use this project to help members of the Target Audience maximize their organizational potential.

3. Technical advisors will submit summary reports of their findings to people involved or interested in the project and be available at neighborhood-wide meetings, as well as meetings of the Cambridge City Council and/or other City officials, to discuss their findings

C.

How ANI is Community-Based and Plans to Involve Target Audience in the Project:

1. ANI is a non-profit whose Board members come solely from the Alewife area of North Cambridge. At least one member of the Board is a member of the Target Audience and other individuals who are active in ANI issues but are not Board members are also members of the Target Audience. In all of its activities, ANI has been an all-inclusive neighborhood group, seeking to build community consensus behind environmental issues and trying to involve members of all Alewife communities in environmental discussions. ANI members have distributed thousands of fliers to the Target Audience on issues regarding the greater Alewife area, have held public meetings in and around Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park and have written about environmental issues in newspapers distributed to the Target Audience.
2. ANI views the Target Audience's involvement in this project as essential to its success. All technical advisors, whether paid or volunteer, will be tasked with instructing members of the Target Audience on their area(s) of expertise. Advisors will be encouraged to utilize members of the Target Audience as assistants to maximize the learning curve and ensure that environmental advocacy can and will take place even if the advisors are no longer providing assistance. Members of the Target Audience will be encouraged to utilize the resource room for research, networking and strategic planning purposes. Since the purpose of this project is to empower the Target Audience, anything less than full participation by the residents of Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park would keep the project from becoming a full and on-going success.
3. This project will identify two thousand-plus members of the Target Audience speak multiple languages, it is difficult for them to communicate and organize around environmental issues. By gathering individuals who are concerned about environmental issues together for focus groups and instruction, this project will create a solid infrastructure for future environmental advocacy.
4. This project will also enhance community understanding of environmental and public health information systems and generate information on pollution in the community. While Target Audience members typically lack the specialized education or professional experience to understand complex environmental issues, there is no reason why they cannot learn more about these issues and how to act on their environmental concerns. By making environmental resources accessible to these inhabitants and providing knowledgeable neighborhood residents to explain complex issues, the project will help the Target Audience build the skills needed to be proactive on environmental issues.
5. Epidemiological information collected from the Target Audience as part of this project will require direct the Audience's direct involvement in the project and should spark interest in further project activities.

D. Conclusion

How ANI will Evaluate and Measure the Success of the Project

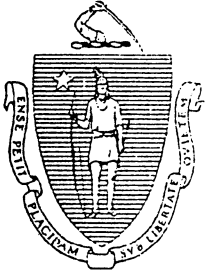
1. Because the primary goal of this project is to empower the Target Audience to research environmental issues and develop environmental programs on its own initiative, the number of actual participants will be very important. It is vital that, at the end of the project, a significant cross-section of the Target Audience has received a level of environmental education and training appropriate to the particular individuals involved. We must have leaders and advocates of a variety of backgrounds with a variety of skills who are members of the Target Audience. There must be a larger number of interested individuals who have the relevant skills and are willing to put some energy into organizing, researching or developing environmental projects. And an overwhelming percentage of the Target Audience must have gained new knowledge and understanding of the environmental issues that face their communities. If, after 12 months, the Target Audience is not capable of addressing environmental issues with a minimum of outside assistance, the project will have been a failure. If, after 12 months, the Target Audience can research, organize and carry out its own environmental projects based on environmental issues as perceived by Audience members, the project will have been a success.
2. The secondary goal of this project is to develop new data about how local environmental issues impact the Target Audience. If this data is successfully compiled and disseminated in an accurate, understandable and professionally acceptable way, this part of the project will have been a success. If, after the surveys, studies and monitoring is done, there is no data of professionally acceptable quality that can be understood by the Target Audience, then this part of the project will have been a failure.

Anticipated Benefits of Project

1. By empowering the members of the Target Audience to understand and act on environmental issues, the project will help give them a stronger voice in determining how they will be impacted by their environment. Poor organization, ignorance of technical issues, intimidation in the face of large bureaucracies and a traditional attitude of "going along to get along" can only be countered by education and greater community support. This project will provide both of these items to members of the Target Audience, allowing them, at the completion of the project, to stand confidently behind their own abilities and opinions and become a strong and informed voice in the environmental discussions in and around their communities.
2. This project will develop some hard data about environmental issues facing the Target Audience, including air quality and environmentally-related illnesses. Poor air quality may be exacerbated by increased traffic along the adjacent highway. Fumes from hazardous waste leaking through foundation cracks may be causing toxic injuries. By analyzing indoor and outdoor air quality, this project will help determine whether the Target Audience faces such threats. Additionally, solid data on environmental illnesses citizens and public servants alike to frame the discussion of environmental issues at the Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park complexes around real life facts rather than rumors and hearsay.

Challenges in Implementing the Project

1. Getting truly committed and capable people involved in any public project where considerable investiture of time and energy is needed on a regular basis can be an insurmountable task. While not all members of the Target Audience need to meet such levels of dedication, there needs to be a core group of roughly ten or twelve people, from a variety of backgrounds, who can meet this task, who can become the leaders of this project when the training and outside support is over. Finding and keeping these people is going to be very difficult. By presenting a professional and consistent appearance over the course of this project, aided considerably by having a dedicated space from which to run the project, ANI believes it can attract truly qualified people who realize that environmental issues are important and see a unique chance to empower themselves.
2. Having a dozen or so leaders is not enough. They must have a larger group of people to organize, educate and lead. Obtaining and maintaining the numbers of mid-level supporters the project needs to reach critical mass will be very difficult as well. People have their own lives to lead- jobs, families, hobbies. Time spent on this project will be time not spent on other matters and the people most likely to be active in this project are, in general, people who already have busy lives. However, by getting the Target Audience to recognize how important environmental issues are to the health and welfare of themselves and their families and by ensuring all contact with the project is productive, professional and enjoyable, ANI believes it can attract and keep the necessary numbers of mid-level supporters.
3. ANI members must stay committed to this project, not only for the initial twelve months but for as long as environmental issues pose a problem for the residents of Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers. Competing interests and other environmental threats facing the Alewife area will drain ANI of some of the resources needed to support this project. However, through the solid leadership and management demonstrated thus far by the ANI Board and its supporters, it is very likely that there will always be more than enough ANI support for this project.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WASTE SITE CLEANUP

WILLIAM F. WELD
Governor

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
Lt. Governor

TRUDY COXE
Secretary

DAVID B. STRUHS
Commissioner

List of Tier 1 Disposal Sites

June 1997

Town	Address	Site Name/Location Aid	Site ID	Status
CAMBRIDGE - Failure to Meet Deadline				
	25 FRESH POND PKWY	CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPT	3-0010625	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 2 No data release 3 Oil released at a site. 			
	217 CAMDEN ST	BRISTON ARMS APARTMENTS	3-0001660	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 2 Phase 1 released in a residence. 			
	980 CAREN ST	BRIKLAUSER	3-0000659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 			
	480-10 GREEN ST	PROPERTY	3-0002755	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Gasoline released at a property from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in an unknown. 			
	126 JACKSON ST	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	3-0004330	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 2 1 Pesticides and inorganic chemicals released at a commercial site resulting in a release to the soil and a plume to the groundwater. 			
	780 MAIN ST	CHRISTIAN MISSION CHURCH	3-0002807	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Petroleum and virgin oil released at a spill site and a church from a leaking aboveground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil and a groundwater release. 			
	485 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	PROPERTY	3-0001661	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Oil released at a site 			
	2578 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	AMOCO (FMR) #4333	3-0000708	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Oil released at a site 			
	MASSACHUSETTS AVE/TROWBRID	NO LOCATION AID	3-0012234	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Oil release 1 Oil released at a site. 			
	23-27 RESERVOIR ST	NO LOCATION AID	3-0011759	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Oil release 1 Oil released at a site. 			
	RINDGE AVE	JEFFERSON PARK APTS	3-0001657	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 			
	342-30 RINDGE AVE	RINDGE TOWERS APARTMENTS	3-0001659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Released in a residence. 			
	318 SMITH ST	PROPERTY	3-0002895	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 1 Petroleum released at a commercial site from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil 			
	515 VINE ST	ADLEY EXPRESS SITE (FMR)	3-0000940	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Phase 1 			

Town	Address	Site Name/Location Aid	Site ID	Status
CAMBRIDGE - Failure to Meet Deadline				
	250 FRENCH POND PKWY	CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPT	3-0010625	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Unknown release			
	3. Oil released at a site.			
	217 GARDEN ST	BRISTON ARMS APARTMENTS	3-0001660	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Gasoline released at a residence.			
	480 GREEN ST	BRIKLAUSER	3-0000659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	480-10 GREEN ST	PROPERTY	3-0002755	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Gasoline released at a property from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in an unknown.			
	126 JACKSON ST	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	3-0004330	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 2			
	2. Pesticides and inorganic chemicals released at a commercial site resulting in a release to the soil and a threat to the groundwater.			
	789 MAIN ST	CHRISTIAN MISSION CHURCH	3-0002807	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Petroleum and virgin oil released at a spill site and a church from a leaking aboveground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil and a groundwater release.			
	455 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	PROPERTY	3-0001661	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Oil released at a site			
	2578 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	AMOCO (FMR) #4333	3-0000708	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Oil released at a site			
	MASSACHUSETTS AVE/THROWBRID	NO LOCATION AID	3-0012234	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Unknown release			
	3. Oil released at a site.			
	25-27 RESERVOIR ST	NO LOCATION AID	3-0011759	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Unknown release			
	3. Oil released at a site.			
	RINDGE AVE	JEFFERSON PARK APTS	3-0001657	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	382-30 RINDGE AVE	RINDGE TOWERS APARTMENTS	3-0001659	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Gasoline released at a residence.			
	3 R SMITH ST	PROPERTY	3-0002895	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			
	2. Petroleum released at a commercial site from a leaking underground storage tank resulting in a release to the soil			
	51 S W 1ST ST	ADLEY EXPRESS SITE (FMR)	3-0000940	DEFAULT TIER 1B
	1. Phase 1			



City of Cambridge

31.

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 4, 1998

COUNCILLOR BORN

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record in support of the Environmental Justice Grant submitted by North Cambridge residents. (see attached)

Consent Order #31

col. 1
352.5

Councillor Born re: support the
Environmental Justice Grant submitted
by North Cambridge residents.

In City Council May 4, 1998

Charter Right
exercised by
Councillor Sullivan

In City Council
May 11, 1998

ORDER ADOPTED