



# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

City Hall Annex - Inman & Broadway - Cambridge, Mass. 02139

498-9034

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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

TO: Block Grant Advisory Committee

FROM: *KS* Kathy A. Spiegelman, Assistant City Manager  
for Community Development

SUBJECT: Public Hearing on Application Process  
for Block Grant Year Nine (FY-1983-84)

A public hearing on the City's application process for Block Grant Year Nine (July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984) will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 1982 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., in the third floor conference room at McCusker Center (City Hall Annex), 57 Inman Street.

The Agenda for the hearing will be as follows:

1. 7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Explanation of Community Development Block Grant Program.
2. 7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Explanation of Year Nine (FY 83-84) Application Process.
3. 8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Citizen Testimony on City's Performance in Block Grant Management.
4. 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Citizen Testimony on Community Development Needs in Cambridge.
5. 9:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Citizen Testimony on Priorities for the Allocation of Year Nine Block Grant Funds to Meet Community Development Needs.

Full information on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is available from the Block Grant Director (Tel. 498-9034) as background to the public hearing. Some major items are covered below.

1. FUNDING - We have been advised by HUD that Year Nine funding will be approximately the same as this year's \$3,347,000.
2. NEW APPLICATION PROCEDURE - Effective last year, Congress replaced the longstanding application process with an abbreviated set of requirements consisting of only (a) A Final Statement of Community Development Objectives (statement of goals, and listing of proposed projects); (b) an updated Housing Assistance Plan; and (c) Certifications stating that the City has complied with citizen participation requirements; published the Final Statement of Community Development Objectives; allocated its funds for the benefit of low-

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and moderate-income residents (or to aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight--or to address other urgent community development needs); complied with all other requirements of applicable laws, including civil rights laws. The schedule for the City's application work under this new approach is as follows:

- Public Hearing on Application and City's Community Development Needs      Weds. - December 8
  - Mail City Manager's Draft Application (including Draft Statement of Community Development Objectives) to Advisory Committee      Tues. - January 11
  - Advertise Draft Statement of Community Development Objectives      Thurs. - January 13
  - Meet with citizens, on request, about draft application      January 13-19
  - Public Hearing on Draft Application      Weds. - January 19
  - Revise Application based on public hearing      January 20-26
  - Submit final allocation figures to City's Budget Department      Thurs. - January 27
  - Submit Final Application to HUD      Fri. - February 11
  - Mail Application to Advisory Committee      Tues. - February 15
  - Advertise availability of Application      Thurs. - February 17
3. TARGET NEIGHBORHOODS - As in the current-year program, Block Grant expenditures for Year Nine will be limited to our seven target neighborhoods, other than for "direct benefit" services to income-eligible households in other neighborhoods. The target neighborhoods are East Cambridge, Neighborhood Three, Neighborhood Four, Cambridgeport, Riverside, North Cambridge, and Haggerty Neighborhood.
4. HUMAN SERVICES - Last year Congress amended its basic Block Grant legislation in such a way that Cambridge can now allocate up to ten per cent of its Block Grant budget to human services. However, as in past years, human services issues will not be addressed at the public hearing of December 8, other than to receive recommendations from citizens as to what overall share of the CDBG budget should be allocated to human services. A separate process for allocating CDBG funds to human services will again be carried out by the City's Department of Human Service Programs. Citizens and organizations wishing to be placed on a mailing list for ongoing information about the separate process should contact Ms. Paula Van Gelder at the Human Service Department by letter or by telephone (498-9076).

Additional information available to citizens and organizations (prior to and/or at the public hearing) includes but is not limited to: (a) HUD's full statement on 1981 Congressional changes in Block Grant law; (b) HUD's listing of eligible and ineligible activities; (c) Citizen Participation Requirements; (d) Grantee Performance Report for CDBG Year 7 (FY 1981-82); (e) Financial reports covering all projects (through Sept. 30, 1982 for Years One through Seven and through October 31 for the current year); (f) current Housing Assistance Plan (HAP); (g) 1980 census figures for Cambridge neighborhoods (total, minority, and non-minority population).\*

Advisory Committee members will notice that none of the information we are providing involves the possible further effects of Proposition 2½ on the Block Grant Program. While the principle of even-handed service to all Block Grant neighborhoods would necessarily remain intact, the City Manager must reserve the right to make substantial changes in the selection of eligible activities that will be carried out in the event that the City's operating budget for FY'84 is cut by a second \$12 million. Clearly, the Block Grant Program cannot operate in a vacuum. Among its many types of eligible activities, some will become more appropriate and others less so as Cambridge undergoes a progressive reduction in tax-supported services.

Should additional information be of help before the public hearing, please contact Edward Handy, Block Grant Program Director, at 498-9034.

cc: Robert W. Healy, City Manager

\*See reverse side of this page for these 1980 Census figures.

CAMBRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD POPULATION  
(TOTAL AND MINORITY) --PER 1980 U.S. CENSUS

NEIGHBORHOOD	TOTAL POPULATION		MINORITY POPULATION					
	Number of Persons	Change Since 1970	NON-WHITE		HISPANIC WHITE		TOTAL MINORITY	
			Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
MID-CAMBRIDGE	13,415	- 9.5	1,457	10.9	201	1.5	1,658	12.4
NEIGH. #9	11,082	+ 4.4	2,148	19.4	175	1.6	2,323	21.0
NORTH CAMBR.	10,990	- 9.6	2,321	21.1	349	3.2	2,670	24.3
RIVERSIDE	10,027	+ 2.9	2,707	27.0	316	3.15	3,023	30.1
CAMBRIDGEPORT	8,670	- 5.5	1,812	20.9	182	2.1	1,994	23.0
NEIGH. #10	8,581	-22.5	568	6.6	85	1.0	653	7.6
NEIGH. #3	7,302	- 2.1	704	9.6	304	4.2	1,008	13.8
NEIGH. #4	6,532	-11.9	2,848	43.6	577	8.8	3,425	52.4
EAST CAMBR.	5,380	- 6.9	239	4.4	179	3.3	418	7.8
AGASSIZ	5,350	- 8.6	609	11.4	80	1.5	689	12.9
NEIGH. #2	4,736	+17.0	1,172	24.8	188	4.0	1,360	28.7
HAGGERTY	2,566	+54.2	249	9.7	29	1.1	278	10.8
CAMBR. HIGHL.	691	+23.2	28	4.1	2	0.3	30	4.3
TOTALS	95,322	- 5.0	16,862	17.7	2,667	2.8	19,529	20.5

- NOTES: 1. Neighborhoods are listed in the order of their 1980 population size.  
 2. The seven Block Grant neighborhoods are highlighted.  
 3. White Hispanic figures derived from city-wide average (58.8 percent of all Hispanics).

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Comm. from Kathy A. Spiegelman, Asst. City  
Manager for Community Development Re: pub-  
lic hearing on application process for Block  
Grant Year Nine (FY1983-84).

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In City Council,

December 13, 1982