



# City of Cambridge

14.

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 15, 1993

COUNCILLOR WOLF  
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY  
COUNCILLOR MYERS

WHEREAS: The attached letter relates to noise from air conditioners from a commercial building; and

WHEREAS: Issues around air conditioner noise have been a theme of complaints over the last few years, both from commercial buildings and from residences; and

WHEREAS: This City Council has passed several orders requesting mitigation for particular situations, but also a resolution for the broad issues and problems; and

WHEREAS: These do not seem to have been forthcoming; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be requested to convene representatives from the appropriate agencies to find what actions, in ordinance, codes, or enforcement, could handle these issues in a clear way; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be asked to follow up on this particular issue to assist the parties to coming to a satisfactory resolution; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City on this matter at his earliest convenience.

In City Council November 15, 1993.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

October 28, 1993

Mayor Reeves  
Vice Mayor Cyr  
Councillor Duehay  
Councillor Myers  
Councillor Sullivan  
Councillor Toomey  
Councillor Russell  
Councillor Walsh  
Councillor Wolf  
City Manager Healy

Dear Members of the Council and Mr. Manager,

We are writing to you to request your assistance in solving a serious noise problem caused by exhaust fans and air conditioners on top of the Clark and Richards Buildings at 38 and 64 Sydney Street, owned by Forest City Corporation.

This noise which is generated 24 hours a day and 7 days a week has the quality of an airplane roar. It is particularly nerve wracking late at night and early in the morning.

We have tried to work this problem out with the property owners over the past three years. In the end the response has been that it would be too expensive for them to correct and that the new housing would act as a noise buffer. If we had made a construction mistake that disturbed our neighbors to this same extent, we would not be allowed to give excuses to avoid correcting it. Further, to suggest that the tenants in the new housing should endure this noise to our benefit, conveys a lack of concern for our neighborhood.

We fear that if this problem is not solved, when the new commercial buildings are added, that this problem will greatly increase. We need your help.

We are asking for your assistance in three areas. First we want measures taken to solve the existing noise problem, and assurances that the design of the new buildings do not create new noise problems. Further we feel that it would be of great help to city neighborhoods if a new ordinance was created which specifically deals with this problem.

Three years is long enough, we would like to hear from you as soon as possible. (Contact persons: Peggy Lynch 876-1501 and Peter Valentine 661-3261) Thank you.

*Nelson Dolt*  
9 Brookline St  
Cambridge

*Robert P. Hacy*  
53 Brookline St.  
Cambridge, MA

*William Adams*  
75 Brookline St  
Cambridge

*Peggy Lynch*  
64 Brookline St

*Peter Valentine*  
37 Brookline  
Cambridge, MA

*Dickie Dhuson*  
53 Brookline St  
Cambridge, MA 02139

*Jerry Taylor*  
55 Brookline St  
Cambridge MA

*Jan Pirebello*  
69 Brookline St

*Howard Roe*  
104 Auburn St

*Bill Cavelline*  
158 Brookline St.

*John Elder*  
51 Brookline

*amb*  
58 Brookline



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*Sheboygan Myers*  
Non-Consent Order # 14

*CM 338*

Councillor Wolf re: noise from  
air conditioners.

*NC  
14*

In City Council,

November 15, 1993

*order adopted*