

SHELTER '89 CAMPAIGN

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Mail Address: SHELTER '89 / (CAMBRIDGE MAR OF 1989)
Shelter of '89 c/o Cambridge Community House,
1430 Mass Avenue, Suite 306 W', Harvard Square,
Cambridge, MA 02138. Tel. (617) 491-6369
"OPEN LETTER TO THE HONORABLES CITY COUNCILLORS, CLERK & MANAGER"

Cambridge, August 23rd of 1988

The City of Cambridge,
The Cambridge City Clerk, Joseph Connarton,
Communication for The Cambridge City Council & The City Manager,
Cambridge City Hall.

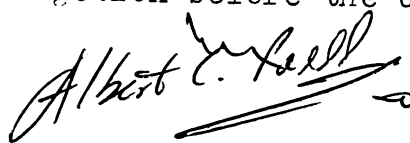
Gentlemen & Ladies:

As the chills and polar winds of winter of 1989 arrived early this week here, making hundreds of Cambridge homeless to carry blankets with them, at day and at night their living bodies rough up in the ground with newspapers & cardboards for beds in the streets, alleys, parks, around the river, highways and the sides of buildings, a growing self-evident crisis and sight of them to motorists, passers-by and the luckier individuals & families with housing,

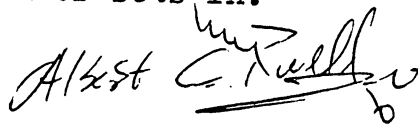
Cambridge Shelter of '89 / (Winter of 1989,) (abbreviated as Shelter '89), a community advocacy group for the homeless of the city of Cambridge, ask urgently from the City Council & Manager, motion, debate and funding for a few new shelters the city is in dire need, given the well known and increasing shortages of beds in the current shelters last winters which have seen several Cambridge homeless frozen to death and also others that died of cold related diseases, pneumonias and stressed overworked heart strokes due to homelessness, some of them after being turned away or into the streets back to the ruthless cold weather because of shortage of beds and quota time bed-stay-limit to give others a chance among the main reasons for causing homeless deaths, some in Cambridge of the almost 100 homeless deaths in the metro Boston area, count that included the City of Cambridge' past history-recently & or City of Cambridge housing policies that have contributed to evict from the City of Cambridge over 20,000 of its low income residents & low pay workers pushed out of Cambridge by higher rents, condominium conversion, the weakening of rent control laws directly with higher rents not matching incomes and new loopholes on those laws and other housing policies, pushing them out to Boston shelters and streets overcrowding it, including the jails for trespassing to sleep, & making Massachusetts the fastest-growing homeless state tragedy of the nation.

Shelter of '89, therefore, specially request the granting of funding and license from the City Council and the City Manager, to run at least one of the several new shelters urgently needed on the city before the deep of the winter sets in, specially 1 shelter for men and women badly needed and now if we & the City is to prevent on time more frozen homeless iced-bodies and other homeless deaths from intense cold weather related fatal causes.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please give prompt action before the deep and death of the winter sets in.



Very Truly Yours,
Albert C. von Puell,
Director & Coordinator, Shelter of '89



Nilia Mesceth, Homeless Woman Representative/Secretary She '89

15. S-541

Comm. from Albert C. von Puell, Director & Coordinator, Shelter '89 Campaign, requesting that the City Council consider the funding & licensing for a few new shelters for the homeless in Cambridge.

In City Council,

September 12, 1988

9-12-88

Referred to the City
Manager & D.H.S.P.
for Report-

Copy sent to the City Manager + Jill Harris
of Human Services 9/14/88 mhr