

Councillors Graham & Vellucci

In City Council,

April 30, 1973

WHEREAS, the President's budget, recently presented before Congress, increased requests for defense, and decreased requests for funds for human service programs; and

WHEREAS, the effect of the budget will be the reduction of the capacity of cities throughout the nation to meet human needs; and

WHEREAS, the new budget will give to the cities greater decision-making powers, and fewer resources to carry out those decisions; and

WHEREAS, Revenue Sharing was originally proffered by the Administration in 1969 as a supplement to categorical grants and now is being suggested by the Administration as a repository to fund those categories; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Economic Opportunity will be dissolved with no provisions for continuing the much needed Community Action Programs, with the result that CEOC programs in Cambridge which have offered services, employment opportunities and a vehicle for neighborhood participation to low-income residents of Cambridge, will be defunded; and

WHEREAS, the Model Cities Program will be severely curtailed, resulting in a loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars and a reduction in programs funded through that agency, causing many to lose their jobs, and representing a reneging on previous commitments to five full action years; and

WHEREAS, new restrictions will be imposed on Day Care services with the result that large numbers of children presently eligible for such federally-financed services will no longer be eligible and there will be an over-all decrease in Child Care services; and

WHEREAS, the moratorium on subsidized housing and site selection criteria will have a disastrous effect on the ability of Cambridge to respond to its housing crisis; and

WHEREAS, the funds for Federal aid to education will be significantly decreased, with a disproportionate decrease in educational aid programs for the disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government, through the Congress, has recognized the need for providing a wide range of health services to protect the health and safety of the people, and provided financial support for many programs above and beyond that which municipalities can provide, and termination of such funding can bring about a life-or-death situation for thousands of our citizens through lack of medical care, or failure to control communicable disease; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Cambridge in meeting assembled this day of April 30, A.D., 1973, hereby urge the President of the United States to take appropriate action to cancel the proposed budget changes which would decrease funds for human service programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council requests Congressman Thomas P. O'Neill convene in City Council Chambers a public hearing to invite testimony from public and private organizations and concerned citizens in Cambridge on the impact of the federal budget on the City of Cambridge; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Congress of the United States be urged to assure appropriations sufficient to maintain an adequate level of funding to carry on these urgent programs; that Congress assure an orderly transition to any new approaches in funding urban programs, to avoid disruption in continuity of service to people; that Congress insure by appropriate legislation that the present revenue sharing program not be used at the expense of the present individual grant-in-aid urban programs and that any future additional revenue sharing programs do not reduce the level of funding now available to cities, but in fact increase the level of funding so desperately needed to avoid the decay of the cities and the social upheaval that would be engendered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution will be sent to the President of the United States, the Director of the United States Office of Management and Budget, and to all members of the Massachusetts Delegation to the United States Congress, and that the members of the Massachusetts Delegation to Congress be urged to spare no effort to achieve the purposes of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it will be the policy of the City of Cambridge to insure that low-income, minority and foreign language residents of Cambridge will not be denied a vehicle for resident participation in City decisions that affect their lives and neighborhoods, and that every effort will be made to sustain human service programs directed towards the needs of low-income neighborhoods.

In City Council, April 30, 1973.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy,

ATTEST:-

Paul E. Healy
CITY CLERK
City Clerk.

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City Clerk.

Order # 3. 163

Resolution -Mayor Ackermann- Model

Cities & C.E.O.C. a

*Resolution sent to Senators
& Representatives & President
5/7/73*

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April 30, 1973