



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

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*In packet for
Nov. 4th meeting*

November 1, 1996

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a communication from Assistant City Manager for Community Development Susan Schlesinger, regarding the City of Cambridge being awarded a \$2.2 million grant to continue its work assisting property owners in deleading residential units.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
attachment



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SUSAN B. SCHLESINGER

*Assistant City Manager for
Community Development*

ELIZABETH EPSTEIN

*Deputy Director for
Community Development*

Memo

Date: 10/31/96

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager

From: ^{GRS} Susan B. Schlesinger, Assistant City Manager for Community Development

RE: Receipt of \$2.2 Million HUD Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant

I am excited to report that the City of Cambridge was awarded a \$2.2 million grant to continue its work assisting property owners in deleading residential units in the City. This grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Lead-Based Paint Abatement and Poisoning Prevention was awarded under an extremely competitive national process. Cambridge competed with 16 other previous grantees for a total available pool of \$11 million. Other recipients include the States of Vermont, Minnesota, and Wisconsin as well as New York City, NY and Philadelphia, PA. Cambridge was awarded the largest grant within this group. The grant will be administered through the Community Development Department's Lead-Safe Cambridge program.

These funds will enable the City to continue achieving its two important policy goals: minimizing the serious health hazard that lead poses to young children; and assuring access to rental units for low and moderate income families with children.

The Lead-Safe Cambridge program began in October 1994 under a similar lead hazard control grant from HUD which ends in July 1997. The program offers financial and technical deleading assistance to property owners and temporary relocation, medical, and educational services to their low and moderate income tenants. Lead-Safe Cambridge is able to provide these services in Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, and French. In return for program services, owners agree to keep these units as affordable housing for five years following deleading. In cooperation with the Cambridge Hospital, the program will also continue to offer blood lead testing and medical education services through the Cambridge Pediatrics Lead Clinic.

Over the past two years, Lead-Safe Cambridge has successfully assisted over 151 households - 67 units have completed deleading and others are actively progressing through the program. Thousands of people have also received educational information through innovative community outreach efforts such as school-based puppet shows, property owner workshops, train-the-trainer workshops, traveling large educational display, first time homebuyer classes, portable demonstration house, etc.

This \$2.2 million grant will extend the program for an additional 2 years and also incorporate new initiatives. Key components include: working with community groups to

incorporate lead education into their services; providing increased funding for joint deleading and rehabilitation projects with local non-profit community development corporations like Just-A-Start, Homeowner's Rehabilitation Inc., and Cambridge Neighborhood Apartment Housing Services; and expanding soil testing and abatement.

F-161
Communciation tranmitting memorandum
regarding the City of Cambridge being
awarded a \$2.2 million grant to continue
its work assisting property owners
in deleading residential units.

In City Council November 4, 1996