

September 27, 1998

The Honorable City Council
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councillors:

The Area Four Coalition at their regularly scheduled meeting of September 10, 1998 voted to request that the City of Cambridge begin eminent domain land taking measures in relation to 210 Broadway.

A review of the 1992 City of Cambridge 5-year Recovery Action Plan for the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program (1992-1997) clearly spells out the fact that the Area Four Neighborhood has one of the most severe shortages of public recreational open space in the City of Cambridge.

In addition to lack of open space, we are also well aware of the tremendous need for affordable housing in Cambridge, and the constant and long-standing support that the Area Four neighborhood has given to affordable housing.

The severe impact on the residential quality of life in Neighborhood Four and Wellington-Harrington (Area Three) due to the proposed dual development of 205 as well as 210 Broadway has been well documented.

The 1992 Neighborhood Four Study Recommendations, as well as all subsequent studies and planning efforts, have clearly endorsed the need to control the 46,674 square feet of vacant land at 210 Broadway for affordable housing and/or open space.

In June 1997 the Area Four Coalition voted to put aside \$200,000. from the neighborhood UDAG fund for open space and/or affordable housing, the use to be determined by the neighborhood.

In May 1998, the Just-A-Start Corporation bid \$2,100,000.00 for the 46,674 square foot parcel which had been purchased by Bulfinch Properties for \$2,000,000.00 a few months earlier, but Bulfinch did not accept the offer.

Because of the tremendous need for affordable housing and/or open space in Neighborhood Four, and in light of the long, well documented history regarding this property, we are urging the Cambridge City Council to move immediately to begin eminent domain land taking in regard to 210 Broadway.

In addition, we request that a report be prepared by the City Manager and the Community Development Department regarding such an eminent domain land taking, detailing the history regarding this parcel and setting forth their recommendations. This report should be requested to be forwarded to the City Council and the Area Four Coalition within 30 days.

Sincerely yours,



George (Chip) Greenidge
Leadership Council
Area Four Coalition

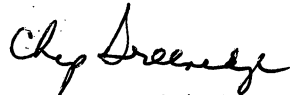
September 27, 1998

The Honorable City Council
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councillors:

The Area Four Coalition at their regularly scheduled meeting of September 10, 1998 voted to request that the City of Cambridge begin immediate eminent domain land taking measures with regard to the property known as "Squirrel Brand" (bordering Harvard Street, Boardman and Broadway), presently being used for light industry and a community garden. An appropriate future use of this property is integral to the life of Area Four, and we ask that you proceed in a proactive manner to take this property for the public use of the City of Cambridge.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chip Greenidge".

George (Chip) Greenidge
Area Four Coalition
Leadership Council

September 27, 1998

To: Margaret Drury, Clerk, City of Cambridge

From: Area Four Coalition,
Chip Greenidge, Leadership Council *chip greenidge*
c/o Margaret Fuller House
71 Cherry Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Please include the enclosed two letters in the next Council packet. Thank you.

1998 SEP 29 A 10:07
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Consent Communication #6

6375

A communication was received from
George (Chip) Greenidge, requesting
that the City of Cambridge begin eminent
domain land taking measures relative
to 210 Broadway.

In City Council October 5, 1998

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