



City of Cambridge

1.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 14, 1976

Mayor Vellucci

WHEREAS:

Harvard University is seriously considering a program of experimentation in genetic recombination, and

WHEREAS:

Simply stated, this means that they will be creating new microorganisms that are nothing less than new forms of life, and

WHEREAS:

It is conceivable that these new life forms could create a serious threat to the public health if they got out of the lab area, lead to disease, and were not subject to known techniques of control, and

WHEREAS:

Some extremely capable biologists feel that this experimentation poses a more serious threat than the dangers from radiation, and

WHEREAS:

The building where the experiments will take place might be ant and roach infested, thus increasing the likelihood that these microorganisms might escape and lead to infestation, and

WHEREAS:

Cambridge residents would be the first to be affected if this danger materialized, therefore be it

ORDERED:

That the City Manager immediately and without delay call for a public hearing on this matter to be held within two weeks, and be it further:

ORDERED:

That President Bok, Dean Rosovsky, informed biologists, the Director of the Cambridge Hospital, and any interested citizens be invited so that this matter can be aired before the public.

City Council

Adopted by the affirmative vote

of 9 members

Paul E. Husky
City Clerk

Order #1

S-324

M. Vellucci re: experimentation in genetic
recombinance.

In City Council,
June 14, 1976

6/14/76

Order

Adopted -