



# City of Cambridge

37.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 19, 1992

VICE MAYOR CYR  
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL  
COUNCILLOR WOLF  
COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS: At a recent hearing before the Elderly Affairs Committee of the Cambridge City Council, evidence was presented on the growing set of problems associated with elderly substance abuse; and

WHEREAS: Substance abuse by seniors was shown to cause pain and isolation to the suffering senior and their families; and

WHEREAS: It was shown that this is an issue too often ignored by our society, at great harm to those who need help and treatment - in effect asking the sufferer to pay the price for our social denial; and

WHEREAS: Most treatment programs are designed for younger people and often have real barriers to the full participation by older people - while Cambridge has successfully pioneered the development of several pilot programs that have shown promising successes; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That this City Council schedule a hearing before the full council at the earliest possible time to review this problem and our municipal responses; and be it further

ORDERED: That the Council on Aging, SCES, CASPAR, Cambridge Hospital, the geriatric substance abuse task force, and other programs and providers be invited to participate.

In City Council October 19, 1992.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

BAC

Vice Mayor Cyr  
Councillor Russell  
*Councillor Wolf*

- Whereas At a recent hearing before the Elderly Affairs Committee of the Cambridge City Council evidence was presented on the growing set of problems associated with elderly substance abuse, And
- Whereas Substance abuse by seniors was shown to cause pain and isolation to the suffering senior and their families, And
- Whereas It was shown that this is an issue too often ignored by our society, at great harm to those who need help and treatment - in effect asking the sufferer to pay the price for our societal denial, And
- Whereas Most treatment programs are designed for younger people and often have real barriers to the full participation by older people - while Cambridge has successfully pioneered the development of several pilot programs - have shown promising successes. Now therefore be it
- Ordered: That this Council schedule a hearing before the full council at the earliest possible time to review this problem and our municipal responses, and further that the Council on Aging, SCES, CASPA, Cambridge Hospital, the geriatric substance abuse task force, and other programs and providers be invited to participate



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*Walden*  
CONSENT ORDER #37

*S-804*  
Vice Mayor Cyr, Councillors Russell &  
Wolf re: Public hearing with regards to  
elderly substance abuse.

In City Council,

October 19, 1992

*Order Adopted*