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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER



February 23, 1989

Mr. Robert W. Healy
City Manager
City of Cambridge
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

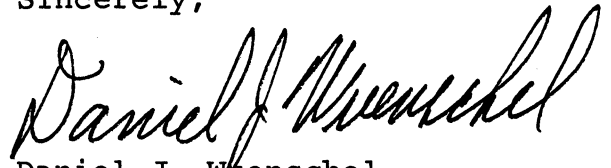
This is in response to your requests for answers to a City Council resolution of January 23, 1989, regarding the J.F. Kennedy Apartments at 55 Essex Street. Let me address each inquiry on an individual basis.

1. Sometime in late December/early January rats appeared in the area of Essex and Harvard Streets. We feel it was the result of construction in the neighborhood. The Housing Authority, working with the City's DPW, ridded the area of the rodents. Since January 18, there have been no sightings or complaints about rats received by the Authority.
2. We recently modernized the boiler room by installing new gas-fired boilers. However, the old thermostats remained where they always were. The baseboard cover runs the length of the wall but does not contain fin tubing beneath the thermostats, thus no heat radiates directly up to the thermostats.
3. I am aware that the windows at J.F. Kennedy are drafty. They are the original jalousie windows installed in 1963. We have been seeking funds from HUD, unsuccessfully I might add, for the past eight years to replace the windows. Fortunately, we recently secured funds from the state through the City's Weatherization Program to install new windows. Construction for this project begins in April.

I hope this answers the questions raised by the City Council.
If further information is necessary, please contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel J. Wenschel". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first and last names being more prominent than the middle initial.

Daniel J. Wenschel
Executive Director

JK:DJW/dp
0196D



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

February 27, 1989

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report No. 29 regarding conditions at 55 Essex Street, I submit the attached report from the Cambridge Housing Authority.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Agenda Item No. 15 S-132

Re; response to Awaiting Report Item No.
29 on the conditions at 55 Essex St.

In City Council,

February 27, 1989

2-27-89

Placed on file.