



AM 9:40

CAMBRIDGE MA
CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
456 BROADWAY
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

SARA O. GARCIA
110 AUBURN STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

To: Honorable Members of the Cambridge City Council
From: Sara Garcia, School Committee Member
Date: March 18, 1987

I am writing to urge you to adopt the resolution to establish a Sister City relationship with the city of San Jose Las Flores, El Salvador.

Many of our students in the Cambridge Schools are Salvadoreans, whose families and friends have had to flee their country because of the political climate. These students come to us traumatized, with memories that will undoubtedly leave life long scars.

We in Cambridge are known throughout this country, and throughout the world, as models of what a city can be like. We struggle daily to exist peacefully and justly with one another. We teach our children to live out their beliefs.

Let us now go one step further in our generosity and courage. Please endorse the Cambridge Sister City Resolution.

Respectfully,

Sara Garcia
Sara Garcia

RECEIVED BY
CITY CLERK

1987 MAR 30 AM 9:22

CAMBRIDGE MA.

Herta Loeser + Hans Loeser
78 Washington Ave
Cambridge, MA 02140

March 19, 1987

Dear Members of the Cambridge City Council:

We are writing to say that we hope
the City of Cambridge will adopt

San Jose Las Flores

in El Salvador as a Sister City - just as we
have just adopted a Sister City in Russia.
We hope very much that this will become a
reality by your vote.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Herta + Hans Loeser

Herta and Hans F. Loeser

Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church

146 HAMPSHIRE STREET, 22
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

CAMBRIDGE MA.

REV. HOWARD McLENDON
PASTOR

RES. 427-0279

TELEPHONE: 868-4853

March 13, 1987

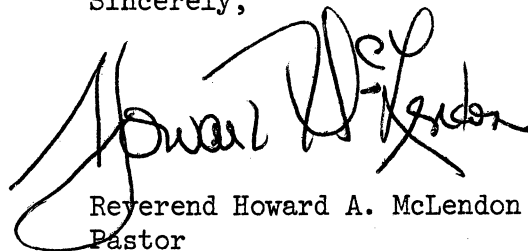
Mrs. Julia Wallace
Sister City Project
1151 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mrs. Wallace:

It is a pleasure to write a letter endorsing the Cambridge/
El Salvador Sister City Project.

In this individualistic age, it is a "breath of fresh air"
to find persons willing to reach out to others.

Sincerely,



Reverend Howard A. McLendon
Pastor

HMCL:my

cc City Council

March 11, 1987
Central Square Ministers' Association
1418 Cambridge St.
Cambridge, MA 02139

CAMBRIDGE MA.

Dear Julia Wallace,

At the most recent meeting of the Central Square Ministers' Association we briefly discussed the Cambridge-El Salvador Sister City Project and since most of us knew about it already we quickly decided to write a letter of endorsement for this most worthy effort to help a suffering neighbor to find peace.

Many of us have read painful accounts of humble non-combatants in El Salvador loosing their homes to bombs and their brothers and sisters to bullets. A history of a country in agony is being written that we would hope would include chapters about concerned neighbors who didn't just stand by but did all in their power to stop that agony. We would like to be among those who supported such efforts.

Several of our Cambridge clergy know Salvadorans personally who are refugees and who have displaced relatives in El Salvador and we've heard their sad stories of distress caused by the civil war in that Country.

We heartily endorse this project and hope that the "Lord who makes all things new" will open up the doors that will make possible a great contribution of Cambridge and of the Sister City Project to the peace that El Salvador so ardently desires.

Sincerely Yours,

Barton Kelso
Rev. Barton Kelso

Albert H. Stankard
Rev. Albert H. Stankard

In the name of the Central
Square Ministers' Association

cc. City Council

March 15, 1987
ST. MARY OF THE ANNUNCIATION
134 NORFOLK STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

CAMBRIDGE MA.

Julia Wallace
Cambridge-El Salvador Sister City Project
1151 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Julia,

Having read the literature you sent me about the Sister City Project with San Jose Las Flores I must say I admire the courage of those who are willing to risk their lives and visit San Jose Las Flores to help them reestablish themselves and find peace and progress in their own homes. It seems to be a most herculean task that you are attempting but one that is necessary. The fact that the people themselves are decisive in wanting to change their situation and are very courageous in pursuing that decisiveness gives hope that your collaboration be successful in many ways.

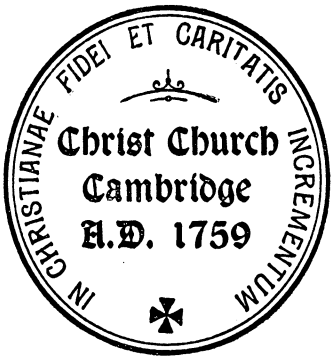
I write this letter to endorse the Project. I hope and pray that many people will be available to make the visits that are necessary to be effective.

There are many Salvadorans in our parish community. We know how they have suffered in having to leave their country. May this Project be one step in the struggle to establish the peace that will allow them to return to the soil they love so much.

Sincerely,


Rev. Albert H. Stankard
Associate Pastor

CC. City Council



Zero Garden Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
CAMBRIDGE MA.

Cambridge-San Jose Los Flores
Sister City Project
1151 Mass. Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

March 12, 1987

Dear Friends,

The Harvard Square Clergy on March 11, 1987 endorses the Resolution being submitted to Cambridge City Council establishing an official city association with San Jose Los Flores.

We also express our concerns and reservations regarding the name which is misleading on two accounts.

1) "Cambridge - San Jose" is the relationship being established (not with El Salvador.) The two cities should, we feel, be the title, not a city and country.

2) The concept of a "Sister City Project" has been established in Cambridge previously (with a Russian city) that doesn't involve direct political intervention or advocacy toward a government. This resolution, however, does call for and/or involve direct political actions on behalf of a peoples toward its government. Therefore, we think the title "Sister City Project" is misleading and may lead to confusion regarding our previous Russian "Sister City" and may lead to conflicts within the Cambridge Community (which we have already been hearing about.) We suggest, if possible, that a different name be worked out.

Sincerely,

The Harvard Square
Ministerial Association
Rev. Monica Styron, Chair

C.C. City Council

RECEIVED BY
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

1987 MAR 30 AM 9:22

CAMBRIDGE MA.

Yves A. Isidor
43 Fairmont St.
Cambridge, MA 02139

March 12, 1987

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

To Whom It May Concern:

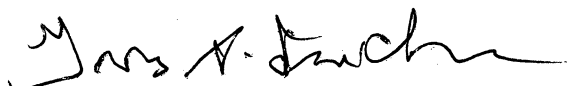
I am pleased to be afforded the opportunity to write a letter of endorsement for the "Cambridge - El Salvador Sister City Project".

Over these past ten years half a million Salvadoreans have been driven from their homes and villages by the political conflict in El Salvador.

Several thousands of them have emigrated to Cambridge seeking personal, economic, and political liberties. Even so, most of them cannot forget about their evacuation from San Jose Las Flores by the army in June 1986.

As Cambridge is well known for its support of grassroots democracy and home to many Salvadoreans who have had to flee the political violence nurtured by the puppet called "Leon Napoleon Duarte" in the country mentioned earlier, I am urging the exemplar City Council of Cambridge to establish a sister city relationship with San Jose Las Flores.

Sincerely,



Yves A. Isidor
Writer and Haitian Activist

cc: S. Freireich

81 Orchard Street
Cambridge, MA 02140
1987 MAR 30 AM 9:22
CAMBRIDGE MA.
March 6, 1987

The City Council
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Councillors:

I am writing this letter to urge support for the resolution to establish a sister-city relationship with San Jose las Flores, El Salvador. Between January 3rd and January 18th, 1987, I travelled to Central America and spent a week in El Salvador. I visited a town much like San Jose las Flores called El Barrillo in the Guazapa Volcano area north of San Salvador. I observed at that time first hand, the fruits of American policy. I observed the fields of peasant farms in flames while American helicopters flew over them with their machine guns firing. This is be part of the 'Scorched Earth' policy which the American military advisors are pressing on the El Salvadoran military. The peasants in these areas where there has been gorilla activity, all civilians must be evacuated and their land and farms burned in order to assure that the gorillas have no hiding places or support population for their activities. After evacuation people are placed in relocation camps for long periods of time where they are detained pending a government decision of where to relocate them. The policy deprives large numbers of El Salvadorans of their homes, their social network, and their livelihoods.

The goal of American policy appears to be military defeat of a gorilla band numbering, by most estimates, less than 5,000. These gorillas took to the mountains in 1980 and 1981 in response to the El Salvadoran death squads which killed over 50,000 civilians. The military oppression and terrorism continues in El Salvador through assassinations and disappearances although on a lesser scale. The United States Ambassador to El Salvador, Ambassador Corr, told us that the 'Scorched Earth' policy must continue possibly for another ten years in order for the American-assisted Salvadoran military to rid the country of these gorillas.

The policy in my view dictates that over half of the country-side be burned and destroyed and evacuated in order to secure a military victory over a group that has substantial popular support. The proponents of American policy in El Salvador is the extreme right, who have been responsible for many of the death squad killings referred to above. This extreme right, frequently called the Oligarchy, defend their privileged position against

any political or governmental action which will undermine their wealth and power. From my perspective the Duarte government is rapidly losing support and because of American military support the far right has gained and will continue to gain political power.

Our objectives in El Salvador are to install a government friendly to ourselves who will allow American economic interests to further their own goals. The gorilla actions in the mountains are in the nature of a civil war which is essentially, none of our business. We have sided with the forces of repression and have placed our military might behind a political position which I believe to be wrong.

I urge the passage of the resolution in order to demonstrate to our policy-makers in Washington, that public support for their murderous policies is eroding. In addition, the present population in El Salvador has suffered greatly and is on the verge of starvation. Any linkages with Cambridge which can lend support and material aid to the peasant population is the kind of humanitarian action which I believe is appropriate for the City of Cambridge.

Sincerely,

Gerard J. Clark

CAMBRIDGEPORT PROBLEM CENTER, INC.

ONE WEST STREET

1987 MAR 30 AM 9:22
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

CAMBRIDGE MA 02139
617-661-1010

617-661-1216 (TDD)

March 11, 1987

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councilors:

Cambridgeport Problem Center urges the City Council to adopt the proposed Resolution On Establishing A Sister City Affiliation With San Jose Las Flores, El Salvador.

Sincerely,

Phil Woodbury
Phil Woodbury
President

PW/sc

THIS AGENCY IS
SUPPORTED BY



United Way
OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY

FRIENDS MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE

5 LONGFELLOW PARK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138
TELEPHONE (617) 876-6883

MAR 30 AM 9:22
CAMBRIDGE MA.

March 3, 1987

Dear City Councillors,

We would like to strongly endorse the City of Cambridge to become a sister city with San Jose las Flores in El Salvador. Friends Meeting at Cambridge has been involved in studying the conditions of the people in El Salvador, especially its Christian base communities and the conditions of the poor, who are victims of the war.

We have been very concerned about the U.S. military and economic involvement in El Salvador. As Quakers we are committed to stopping war, such as exists in El Salvador, and promoting love between all nations. Along with the majority of U.S. citizens we want our country out of the regional war in Central American.

We would like to create a personal, ongoing relationship with a community in El Salvador, so as to build a bridge of peace and solidarity with the common people of El Salvador. The American Friends Service Committee Material Aids Program has already sent clothes and children's toys to San Jose las Flores. Our Friend's Meeting has heard a report from two women who delivered these supplies and learned of the needs of this town. We already feel close to them as fellow seekers of God's peace and justice.

We urge the City of Cambridge to join with their valient struggle to stop the injustices of the war in San Jose las Flores. One way to join them is to become their sister city. Most importantly it would help our Meeting and other citizens to become involved in their responsibilities as citizens and children of God.

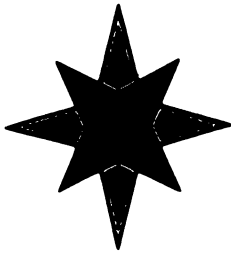
With truth,
The Peace and Social Concerns Committee
of Friends Meeting at Cambridge

Elizabeth Claggett
George Bard Jr.

Martina Solish
Skip Schill

Patricia W. W.

Frank Lattin
Alex Vandenburg



American Friends Service Committee

2161 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02140

(617) 661-6130

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL OFFICE

1987 MAR 30 AM 9:22
CAMBRIDGE MA

March 6 , 1986

Cambridge City Council
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dear Members of the City Council:

We are heartened by the effort to create a sister city relationship between Cambridge and San Jose Las Flores in El Salvador.

In times of war, repression and suffering - when we are fortunate enough not to be the immediate victims - we are faced with a choice. We can either watch victims suffer in silence, or we can respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters, thus serving life and ourselves.

As the resolution before the City Council indicates, for many years the people of Cambridge, as individuals and as a community, have sought to respond to the agony caused by our government's war in Central America with considerable attention being given to the people of El Salvador. The American Friends Service Committee was proud to play a role in helping Cambridge become "A City of Refuge." Having taken this small but meaningful first step, and given the relationship that already exists between the people of Cambridge and the beleaguered people of San Jose Las Flores, it seems only appropriate for the City of Cambridge to take the next steps proposed in the resolution to establish a sister city relationship with the town of San Jose Las Flores.

We look forward to the richness that will be added to our community as a result of the proposed sister city relationship and to the opportunity to serve people who have been injured in our name, and we trust that you will do everything possible to expedite the establishment of a sister city relationship with San Jose Las Flores.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Gerson
Peace Education Secretary

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OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

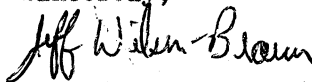
1987 MAR 30 AM 8:22 March 17, 1987

CAMBRIDGE MA

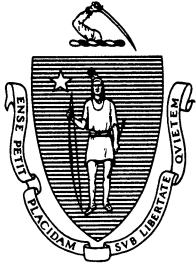
To the Cambridge City Council:

We are proud and honored to be able to add our names to those who endorse a sister city relationship between Cambridge and San Jose las Flores, El Salvador. We agree that this project can only enhance the national and international attention needed to help assure protection of El Salvadorans oppressed and threatened by the ongoing war. It is our fervent prayer that the Council respond positively and soon to this Resolution on Establishing a Sister City Affiliation with San Jose las Flores.

Sincerely,



Jeff Wilson Braun for the
Social Action Committee
First Church in Cambridge, Congregational
11 Garden Street
Cambridge



MARY KAY LEONARD
DIRECTOR

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Human Services

Cambridge/Somerville Office for Children

One Summer Street

Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

TELEPHONE
623-5096

March 17, 1987

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Members of the Cambridge City Council:

The Cambridge Council for Children strongly urges the Cambridge City Council to adopt the resolution (to be presented on March 23) on establishing a Sister City affiliation with San Jose Los Flores, El Salvador.

The Council for Children, a children's advocacy organization composed of Cambridge residents, focuses primarily on the health, safety, and well-being of Cambridge children but is also deeply concerned with the welfare of children everywhere. A Sister City affiliation with San Jose Los Flores would give Cambridge residents a chance to directly aid children and families who desperately need help, and to extend their compassion and friendship to those who have experienced more than their share of suffering and disruption.

The El Salvador Sister City project is in the fine tradition established by the Cambridge City Council of furthering world peace and understanding by extending the city's friendship to people in countries around the world -- Italy, Portugal, Japan, the USSR. These international affiliations are an appropriate affirmation of the city's own rich, multi-cultural heritage. The Council for Children urges the City Council to adopt this resolution, and to add San Jose Los Flores to the Cambridge family circle.

Sincerely,

Neal Michaels

Neal Michaels, Chairman
Cambridge Council for Children



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
57 INMAN ST. (2nd Floor)
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

SARAH WUNSCH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(617) 498-9049
TDD (617) 492-0235

March 10, 1987

Members of the Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

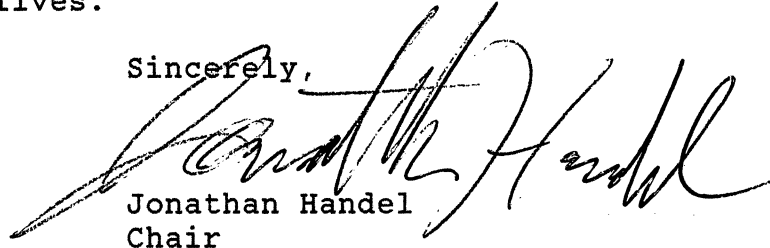
Dear Councillors:

The Cambridge Human Rights Commission urges that you support the resolution that has been proposed on considering the establishment of a sister city application with San Jose Las Flores, El Salvador.

We support consideration of the sister city application as a way of showing concern for human rights in other parts of the world. Sister City affiliation with a Salvadoran village is particularly meaningful in light of the many Salvadoran refugees who live today in Cambridge and who worry about the safety of relatives, friends and colleagues who remain in El Salvador.

As members and staff of a Human Rights Commission we are also mindful of the fact that many of our counterparts on the Human Rights Commission in El Salvador have disappeared, been tortured and murdered because of their activities in defense of basic human rights. Sister City affiliation may help those in El Salvador who continue to work for justice and peace to know that the world does not ignore their struggle and may help protect their very lives.

Sincerely,


Jonathan Handel
Chair


Sarah Wunsch
Executive Director

Simplex Steering Committee

274 Brookline Street

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

March 16, 1987

MAR 30 AM 9:23

CAMBRIDGE MA.

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Dear Councillors,

We want to express our enthusiastic support for the resolution coming before you on March 23, 1987 to establish a Sister City Relationship with San Jose Las Flores, El Salvador.

As you know we are an organization that has been trying to affect the development of our industrial area so that it minimizes the displacement of residents from their homes and jobs. No where in the world is displacement from homes and jobs more disruptive and violent than in the war-torn areas of Central America, the Middle East, and Afghanistan. We are deeply troubled by the pain and suffering brought upon ordinary people, simple people trying to survive in El Salvador.

We are uplifted by the courage and persistence of the people of San Jose Las Flores. They have returned to the land that they know best. They have returned to the land of their sweat and tears. For those of us whose families were farmers, this odyssey is all the more significant.

We must help these people. You must help these people. Policy initiatives have been passed in the City Council that lay the foundation for this further gesture and commitment. The dedicated volunteers of the Cambridge-San Jose Las Flores Sister City Project have suggested a process and some projects that would move the City of Cambridge into a meaningful supportive role in the reconstruction of the village of these courageous people. Just the work that you took these steps could help protect against another violent uprooting.

We urge you to act now. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bill Cavellini
for the Committee

Comm. from Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk,
transmitting fifteen comm.'s urging the City
Council to support a proposal for the estab-
lishment of a Sister City relationship between
the City of Cambridge & the Town of San Jose
las Flores, El Salvador.

In City Council,

March 23, 1987

*Referred to the hearing-
hearing not held.
Communication - Placed
on file*