

Nov 14 1994

Stephen Anderson
16 Francis Ave
Cambridge, MA 02138

1994 NOV 16 PM 2:23

CAMBRIDGE MA.

Councilor Michael Sullivan
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Ave
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councilor Sullivan,

I am writing to urge you and the Council to find a creative solution to the transitional needs of low-income tenants.

I am a tenant and a long-time volunteer for groups that work for the poor (Homeless shelters, soup kitchens, a Cambridge Food Pantry, and a group that paints low-income housing throughout Boston). I voted "yes" on 9 because I believe it will increase the amount of housing for the poor by removing those abusing the system. I still believe this, but think we should have a program to protect the poor during the transition.

How about a means-tested grandfather clause that subsidizes the poor among the current tenants? Why not say that 30% of income goes to rent, with the city giving a subsidy on top? As the younger tenants age and their income rises, the financial burden to the city would decrease. At the same time, the elderly on fixed incomes would be protected.

I would support any increase in taxes/fees to pay for a means-tested subsidy. In particular, the increased property tax revenue due to Q9 should be earmarked for the poor.

Sincerely,
Stephen Anderson

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Sincerely,
Steve Anderson

U
Comm. # 9

S-575

Comm. from Steve Anderson, 16 Francis Avenue, requesting the City Council to find a creative solution to the transitional needs of low-income tenants.

In City Council,

November 16, 1994

11/16/94 Placed on file