

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
City Hall Annex - Inman & Broadway - Cambridge, Mass. 02139

February 23, 1981

Dear North Cambridge Resident,

In June 1980, the City Council adopted an Order establishing an Alewife Development Area Stabilization Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to recommend to the City Manager a specific program designed to offset potential adverse impacts on the North Cambridge neighborhood resulting from the Red Line Extension and new development that is likely to occur in the Alewife area. The City Council, additionally, allocated \$3.5million spread over a fourteen year period to assist the Committee in implementing a Stabilization Program. The funds will be distributed in increments of \$250,000 annually; Years 1 - 4 will be funded by Federal Community Development Block Grant dollars and Years 5 - 14 will be funded by tax dollars accrued from new development in the Alewife area. Program recommendations must meet Federal eligibility guidelines which are generally limited to physical improvements. Eligible program expenditures would, for example, include the following: improvements to streets and sidewalks, housing rehabilitation programs, creation and/or improvements to parks and recreational facilities, and installing trees and lighting. The Community Development Department will provide technical assistance to the Committee including in-depth review of program options and costs, and preparation and monitoring of final program contracts. The Committee will in all likelihood meet bi-monthly and participation is open to all North Cambridge residents.

The Community Development Department will hold a neighborhood meeting on Wednesday, March 11th, at 7:30 in the Fitzgerald School Auditorium to explain in greater detail how the Committee will work and to answer any questions that you may have. I urge you to attend and to take the opportunity to participate in this exciting and innovative program. If you would like additional information, please feel free to call Ms. Betty Desrosiers at 498-9034.

Very truly yours,

David R. Vickery,
Assistant City Manager
for Community Development



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

March 9, 1981

To the Honorable, the City Council:

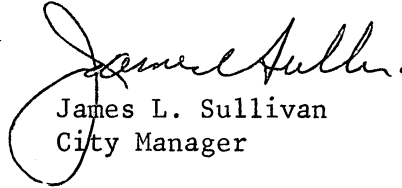
As requested by Council Order, dated June 30, 1980, I have instructed the Community Development Department to proceed with establishing an Alewife Development Area Stabilization Committee as follows:

- * A neighborhood meeting will be held at the Fitzgerald School to explain the purposes of and to solicit community involvement on the Stabilization Committee. (See attached letter)
- * Membership on the Committee will be open at all times to all residents of the North Cambridge community. The Community Development Department will attempt to assemble a membership that will reflect a broad spectrum of North Cambridge residents. Specifically that homeowners, renters, families, elderly and low and moderate income households are proportionally represented.
- * Initial Committee meetings will be informational meetings to review neighborhood demographic data, CDBG program guidelines, and to explore the questions and issues raised by neighborhood change. Subsequently, there will be a series of topical meetings (e.g., housing rehabilitation, open-space, street and sidewalks, etc.) with Community Development Department staff to outline potential program activities and costs.
- * Program activities and corresponding appropriations will be selected annually by a simple voting process. Attendance at two consecutive meetings will be required for eligibility to vote. Committee recommendations will then be forwarded directly to my office.
- * Participation by the Cambridge Highlands community (Neighborhood 12) will be incorporated during Year 5 (1985 - 1986) if the City has begun to accrue tax benefits from new development in the Alewife area. This phasing procedure is being utilized because Neighborhood 12 is not a CDBG eligible area.

Formation of an open committee as I have suggested will encourage extensive community input critical to this neighborhood planning process. With technical assistance from the Community Development Department, the Committee will have the necessary resources available to prepare a stabilization program which will address the potential adverse neighborhood impacts

resulting from the Red Line Extension and new development in the Alewife area. I am certain that the North Cambridge Stabilization Committee will be as successful as its East Cambridge counterpart.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf
Enc.

Agenda # 7

A-40

Establishment of an Alewife Development
Area Stabilization Committee.

In City Council,

March 9, 1981

3/9/81

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