

Cambridge Housing Authority

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: James L. Sullivan, City Manager

FROM: Lewis H. Spence, CHA Executive Director *LHS*

DATE: October 7, 1975

RE: Proposed Rent Increases for Public Housing Tenants

In response to City Council Order of September 29, 1975, which you recently forwarded to me, I would like to report on recent developments in the State's efforts to increase rents for tenants of State-aided public housing.

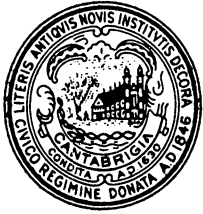
The proposed rent regulations issued by the State Department of Community Affairs were described in a detailed letter to members of the Council from me last week. Because of the overwhelming opposition to the proposed rent increase regulations, the DCA withdrew proposed rent regulations on Thursday, October 2, 1975, three days prior to the public hearings on these and other proposed regulations.

On Monday, October 6, 1975, hearings on the remaining 5 sets of regulations were held by the DCA and Secretary Flynn in Boston. I am proud and pleased to report that Cambridge was by far the most active and best represented City in those hearings. Among those from Cambridge speaking in opposition to the proposed regulations were Councillor Sandra Graham, CHA Board members Eileen Henry and James Stockard, Chairperson of the Roosevelt Towers Tenant Council, Clorae Evereteze, Chairperson of the Cambridge Tenant Senate, Cheryl Headley, Joanne Pelham of Putnam Gardens, Lou Agnetta of the Harry S. Truman Apartments, Bernard Grouke of Miller's River Apartments and other Cambridge public housing tenants. In addition, I spoke and a representative of the City Solicitor's office read into the record the City Council's resolution in opposition to the proposed regulations. Ms. Katherine Hanley testified on behalf of the Cambridge Council on Aging. Finally, four bus loads of Cambridge tenants attended the hearings.

It is reliably reported that as a result of the powerful showing of opposition made by Cambridge and other cities at the public hearings, that most of the proposed regulations are slated to be withdrawn. While this is not yet confirmed as fact, I will keep you and the Council informed of any new developments in this area.

On behalf of the Authority, I want to thank you and the City Council for your strong opposition to the regressive, inhumane and ill-advised regulations proposed by the DCA. I hope that the City of Cambridge, the Authority and the tenants of public housing in Cambridge will continue to work shoulder to shoulder to prevent further encroachment on the rights of public housing tenants to live in a decent home at rents they can afford.

LHS:vn



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
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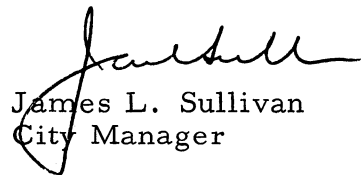
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

October 20, 1975

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I transmit herewith a self-explanatory communication from Lewis H. Spence, CHA Executive Director, relative to proposed rent increases for Public Housing Tenants.

Very truly yours,


James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf

Agenda #7 *F-376*

Re: to the proposed rent increase

In City Council,

Oct. 20, 1975

10/20/75
Placed
on
File.