



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

October 3, 1990

The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy III
1208 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Housing Bill Conference Committee Action on
H.R.5157 and S.566

Dear Representative Kennedy:

We are pleased that you have been appointed as a member of the Senate-House Conference Committee now working to resolve differences in S.566, the National Affordable Housing Act, and H.R.5157, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1990.

We are also pleased that the Community Housing Partnership Act is an integral part of H.R.5157. We support this legislation, as written and introduced by you, and we are hopeful that the conferees will place it in the final Housing Bill without change.

There are a number of other issues now under discussion by the conferees that concern us greatly and about which we want to let you know our position. Given that the Senate's HOP (Housing Opportunity Partnerships) appears almost certain to be accepted by the conferees, with revisions, as a housing "block grant program" to be incorporated into the final bill, it is the City of Cambridge position that:

1. The formula by which the HOP funds will be allocated to local governments should be needs-based, and should be specified in the statute -- not left to the sole discretion of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;
2. The allocation of HOP funds should be 70% to entitlement cities and counties as defined under the Community Development Block Grant Program, with the balance of 30% to States, and with a minimum of \$500,000 to each participating jurisdiction;
3. The non-federal match required in order to qualify for HOP funds should be a uniform 25%;

October 3, 1990

Representative Kennedy/Re: Bill H.R.5157 and S.566

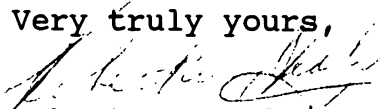
Page 2

4. There should be no consolidation of any existing programs into a new rental production program until implementing regulations and appropriations are established.

We have deeply appreciated your strong action in working for a final Housing Bill that protects low-and-moderate income tenants in Federally-subsidized housing developments from being displaced through pre-payment of the forty-year mortgages. We now further request your help as to our four legislative objectives outlined above.

Should you or your staff want to talk with us about our basis for taking these positions, we are prepared to meet here in Cambridge or to arrange a telephone conference call.

Very truly yours,


Robert W. Healy
City Manager

cc: Cambridge City Council

The Massachusetts Congressional Delegation

The Honorable Donald W. Riegle, Jr.
Chairman Senate Committee on Banking,
Housing and Urban Affairs

The Honorable Henry B. Gonzales
Chairman, House Committee on Banking,
Finance, and Urban Affairs

3. 5-978

Comm. from Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk,
transmitting a communication sent to
Representative Joseph Kennedy relative to
Housing Bill Conference Committee Action
on H. R. 5157 and S. 566.

In City Council,

October 15, 1990

Placed on file