



City of Cambridge

28.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 28, 1993

MAYOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has a commitment to enhance and upgrade Central Square through work with neighborhood organizations, new and existing businesses and cultural centers; and

WHEREAS: An integral and vital part of Central Square has long included the presence of a major regional and local dance and movement center which contributes to the cultural and economic vitality of Central Square; and

WHEREAS: The Dance Complex employs and supports up to 40 dance and movement instructors and provides classes for over five hundred area and local residents each week and contributes both culturally and economically to the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS: Recent economic turmoil in the area business and real estate markets have created a situation where the Dance Complex building must be sold by the owner, and as a consequence the Dance Complex will be forced to close and leave the building at 538 Massachusetts Avenue; and

WHEREAS: There are no other suitable spaces in Central Square at affordable rates that can meet the needs of the Dance Complex and as a result the City will lose an important cultural institution and will lose 40 jobs that are critically important to the area dancers and instructors; and

WHEREAS: The Dance Complex is a not for profit corporation with limited funds and it has requested the assistance of the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center (CMAC), another not for profit corporation, to purchase the Dance Complex building located at 538 Massachusetts Avenue. The Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center supports the Dance Complex and its diversity of multicultural dance and movement activities that involve over five hundred people of all ages, incomes, ethnic, religious and racial backgrounds; and

WHEREAS: The CMAC and the Dance Complex have worked very closely with the Mayor, the City Manager, and the Community Development Department to review options and develop an appropriate plan to save this cultural institution and as a consequence the CMAC has made an offer to purchase the building, and the Bank has accepted that offer to purchase the building; and

WHEREAS: The bank will assist in financing the purchase of this building on very favorable terms but the CMAC requests that the City of Cambridge provide a loan to be used as a down payment on the building; and

WHEREAS: The City, the CMAC, the Dance Complex and the Bank are acting in a cooperative relationship to preserve this valuable institution; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to engage in and complete negotiations with the CMAC for a \$75,000 acquisition loan to be used as a down payment in its purchase of 538 Massachusetts Avenue; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Manager commend the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, the staff and board of the Dance Complex and the Community Development Department for their perseverance and work to preserve this vital Central Square cultural institution.

In City Council June 28, 1993.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

D. Margaret Drury

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



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Yosney Consent Order # 28 *CM-199*
Mayor Reeves re: efforts to preserve
the Central Square Dance Complex.

In City Council,

June 28, 1993

Order adopted