



HARVARD SQUARE

BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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April 4, 1995

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KRISTIN T. SUDHOLZ

Councilor Frank Duehay
Cambridge City Council
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councilor Duehay:

As requested, the Board of Directors of the Harvard Square Business Association has considered the issues raised at the public hearing last Thursday with regard to the Street Performers Ordinance. In response, the Board is encouraging the City Council to pass the ordinance as it is presently proposed.

With regard to some of the specific unresolved issues:

1) Quincy Park - the enforcement of the ordinance falls to the Cambridge Arts Council and the Cambridge Police Department, including monitoring restricted areas. Therefore, the clause restricting Quincy Park is acceptable as is, as the Arts Council will have the ability to fine, suspend, or revoke licenses of those performers unwilling to abide by the ordinance. The proposed ordinance will be sufficient to allow the Arts Council and Police Department to enforce the restrictions.

2) Prerecorded music played during breaks - We recommend that no specific reference or restrictions be admitted into the ordinance at this time. Upon further investigation and discussion about this issue, it was apparent that this is not seen as problem by a large majority of the businesses. They one or two businesses that have a problem with it tend to be against it due to a personal musical taste issue rather than an encroachment on their ability to do business.

The Board recognizes that there is no way to please all the street performers, businesses, and residents, but we still feel that the proposed ordinance is acceptable to the majority of all groups, and by those who want to see the Square's unique flavor and atmosphere continue. The HSBA will continue to maintain its positive dialog with the street performers, residents, Arts Council and Police Department on this issue.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you, or members of the Council, have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 491-3434.

Sincerely,

Kristin T. Sudholz
Kristin T. Sudholz
Executive Director

cc: Councilor Michael Sullivan, City Hall
Councilor Kathleen Born, City Hall
Pallas Lombardi, Cambridge Arts Council
Lindsay Field, Cambridge Arts Council
Ned Landin, Street Artists Guild
Maura Smith, Cambridge Office for Tourism
Pebble Gifford, Harvard Square Defense Fund
Richard Rossi, Deputy City Manager

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Consent Communication #3

5-210

Communication was received from
Kristin T. Sudholz, Executive
Director, Harvard Square Business
Association, transmitting issues
regarding the Street Performers
Ordinance.

InnCity Council April 22, 1996

*Referred to Unfinished
Business #3*