

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

November 5, 1980

Ms. Paula W. Gold
Chief, Public Protection Bureau
Department of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Gold:

RE: Application for Funds to Operate Cambridge Consumer Council

As you know, the Attorney General's Office is currently considering our application for funds to operate the Cambridge Consumer Council. When Secretary of Consumer Affairs Eileen Schell inaugurated the Council at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 6th, it was recognized that State assistance would be essential.

Since then, we have been encouraged to write you directly with our request that a municipality's financial situation be looked at with particular care in evaluating the many applications received. As you know, the passage of "Proposition 2½" on November 4th has presented Cambridge with an unparalleled service-delivery problem. I am enclosing information provided by my letter of October 2, 1980 to the Cambridge City Council, in order to amplify this point.

In our application to the Attorney General, I committed a matching \$10,000 from my emergency funds. The passage of "Proposition 2½" notwithstanding, I will honor this commitment. However, \$20,000 is the minimum amount needed to staff and operate the Consumer Council effectively. Consequently, without the \$10,000 we have requested from the Attorney General's Office, we cannot go forward.

The five-member Cambridge Consumer Advisory Commission has stressed this point to me. Specifically, its members have held that to attempt operation of the Consumer Council without qualified staff would be a travesty in which they cannot participate. I do not take issue with this position.

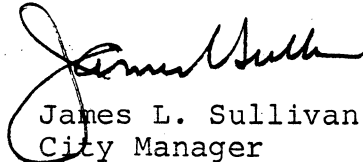
Ms. Paula W. Gold

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November 5, 1980

If further information about the level of our city's need for these funds would be useful, please contact me at your convenience.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS:sl

Attachment

cc: Cambridge Consumer Advisory Commission
Cambridge City Council

PROJECTED 1ST YEAR IMPACT OF PROPOSITION 2½
ON THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Cut in Tax Revenue		\$12,000,000
		<u>2,700,000</u>
		\$14,700,000

School	14,700,000		School	98.79	
	<u>.41</u>		Tax	<u>240.30</u>	= .41
	6,000,000				

\$18,000 x 334 teachers = 6,000,000

City	8,700,000			
\$18,000 x 100 firemen	=		\$1,800,000	
\$21,000 x 100 police	=		2,100,000	
\$12,500 x 175 laborers	=		2,200,000	
Health Centers	=		700,000	
Branch Libraries	=		400,000	
Community Dev. (taxes)	=		300,000	
Community Schools	=		600,000	
Public Celebrations	=		150,000	
YRB	=		200,000	
Travel and Training	=		100,000	
Administrative reductions	=		<u>150,000</u>	
			\$8,700,000	

Fixed Costs

Pension	8.3
Debt & Interest	9.6
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	5.4
MBTA	5.4
MDC	2.58
County	1.17
Street Lights	<u>1.2</u>
	33.65

80,000,000

12,000,000 15%

68,000,000

2,700,000 excise

65,300,000

33,650,000 fixed cost

31,650,000



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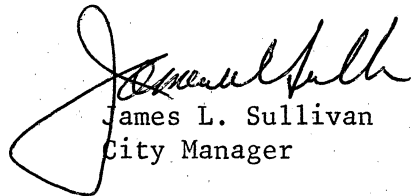
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

November 10, 1980

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a communication which was sent to Ms. Paula W. Gold of the Attorney General's office relative to an application for funds to operate the Cambridge Consumer Council.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf
Enc.

Agenda # 10

S-511

Informational purposes - communication sent
to Ms. Paula W. Gold of the Attorney General's
office relative to application for funds to
operate the Cambridge Consumer Council.

In City Council,

November 10, 1980

11/10/80

Placed on File