



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

City Hall Annex

Inman & Broadway

EXTENSION 344

To Block Grant Advisory Committee

From David R. Vickery, Assistant City Manager
for Community Development

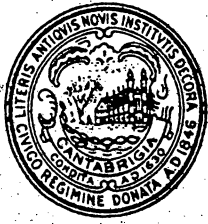
Date April 20, 1977

Subject Enclosures

The following Block Grant materials are enclosed for your review and use:

1. Memorandum of April 12, 1977 from City Manager to Block Grant Advisory Committee re finalization of the Block Grant Year #3 application and its submittal to HUD on April 14 for the 75-day Federal review;
2. Copy of Legal Notice in April 19 edition of Herald-American's Cambridge-Somerville page, covering
 - A. Submittal of Year #3 application to HUD and availability of copies at the Community Development Department;
 - B. Establishment of new procedure for advising public of environmental clearance actions in process;
3. Copy of Legal Notice in April 19 edition of Herald-American's Cambridge-Somerville page covering:
 - A. Finding of No Significant Effect on the Environment, from forthcoming Block Grant Year #3 projects;
 - B. Opportunity for public inspection of the Environmental Review Record, and for objection to the finding.

Should you have any questions about the enclosures, please contact the Block Grant Coordinator at 876-6800, ext. 355.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

MEMORANDUM

TO: Block Grant Advisory Committee

FROM: James L. Sullivan, City Manager

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Block Grant Application to HUD for Review

DATE: April 12, 1977

On February 11, the Assistant City Manager for Community Development sent a memorandum to the Block Grant Advisory Committee reporting on the status of our Year #3 application. The memorandum enclosed my letter to the City Council transmitting the draft application. It also stated that following receipt of comments from the City Council, I would finalize the application and report on it in detail by memorandum to the Advisory Committee.

It was the decision of the City Council not to hold its own hearing or to comment on the application draft this year. This is a course of action the Council may choose to take in any year -- so long as full authority for submitting Block Grant applications continues to be vested in the Executive Department by Council resolution.

Consequently, I submitted the application to the State for A-95 Review, and am now submitting it to HUD for its 75-day review. Copies are available to members of the Advisory Committee and may be obtained by contacting the Block Grant Coordinator at 876-6800, Ext. 355.

The content of the application forwarded to the State and now to HUD, is unchanged from that transmitted to the City Council, except for minor editing. The excerpt (the project listing) mailed to the Advisory Committee on February 11 is unchanged.

As noted in the memorandum of February 11, the Advisory Committee's input at the meeting of January 26 and at the subsequent (January 31) meeting between the Block Grant staff and 15 members of the Committee resulted in one immediate funding change and a number of additional program changes that do not reflect themselves in funding revisions at this time. The immediate change involves the incorporation of Project F-15 into F-18 - making possible an internal allocation of \$90,000 of the F-18 funds to the Wellington-

Harrington Urban Renewal Area, as requested by Just-A-Start leaders. The program changes that do not reflect themselves in funding revisions -- at least not at this stage -- are (in alphabetical order) as follows:

1. Code Enforcement - Project B-10 (Comprehensive and Coordinated Code Enforcement - Phase II) requests \$100,000 for a pilot code-enforcement effort involving new special-team personnel -- on the order of our highly successfully "Parking Control Officer" program operated by the Department of Traffic and Parking. This project ranked 77th among 152 projects in the voting, and first among the 10 "B" Category (Support Activities) projects -- a respectable showing. At the Advisory Committee meetings, a number of thoughtful, dedicated citizens spoke effectively in support of the project. Based on Advisory Committee input and all other appropriate considerations, I am pledging myself (a) to review carefully the results and recommendations of the Phase I effort (the code enforcement study to be conducted by the Community Development Department with current-year Block Grant funds), and (b) based on this review, to develop a Phase II pilot program of public education and enforcement. In this connection, I am directing the Community Development Department to focus the Phase I study on solutions that involve the realignment and/or more efficient use of existing resources, rather than the expenditure of additional City funds. Should the available \$5,000 Phase I budget prove inadequate to accomplish the above, I will provide additional Block Grant funding -- but I do not anticipate a budget overrun.
2. Elderly Neighborhood Centers Development - Project H-20 proposes that \$40,000 be allocated "to provide centralized technical and financial support for the development and refurbishment of inter-related elderly centers on a neighborhood basis. The Advisory Committee ranked this project fourth among the 152 projects in the combined listing, and first among the 28 neighborhood facility projects. Both the high ranking given this project by the Committee in its voting and the strong support it received at later meetings are fully recognized by me, although I am nonetheless keenly aware of the City's current financial inability to begin providing new or expanded services involving substantial capital and/or operating costs. Consequently, I am directing our Block Grant staff to report to me following completion and review of the current Block Grant-funded study of elderly centers need and feasibility. At that time, and based on the results of the current study, I will consider the programming of a "phase two" study that would seek specific elderly center development-and-operation opportunities involving no cost to the City. I am sure that we have basic agreement that this is the only sound approach at this time, and that we must make an exhaustive search for privately-funded

alternatives -- as well as for alternatives that make use of existing public facilities at no increase in public-sector expense. It is my intent that the programming and carrying through of such a study be channeled through the needs-assessment-and-prioritization system to be developed under Project G-30 during the year ahead. This would defer the start-up of the study until Fiscal 1979.

3. Elderly Resource Manager/Coordination - This important project (G-30) has taken on increasing importance and become a matter of increasing concern to our elderly citizens on the Advisory Committee, as well as to all Committee members. The central purpose of the G-30 Project is to design and put into operation a procedure for (1) assessing and prioritizing the needs of Cambridge elderly citizens, and (2) selecting and programming projects that respond logically to the needs assessment and prioritization. The Council on Aging, Home Care Corporation, Committee of Elders, and the City will work together through an Ad Hoc Committee to develop this rational process for reorganizing Cambridge's resources to focus on meaningful solutions to the problems of the City's elderly residents. When this process has been developed through the combined efforts of the elderly constituents and the professional staff, I will direct the start-up of a second phase of this project, in which the new process can be tested. The eleven Block Grant project proposals for the elderly that I could not fund in the Year #3 Application can then be evaluated and prioritized -- along with other unmet needs -- for study, implementation, revision, or discard. It is expected that this process will produce a well-thought-out, coordinated plan for projects to be recommended for future Block Grant funding.
4. Grantsmanship Function - Project B-8 calls for the establishment of a grantsmanship function for the City. In light of the strong interest the Advisory Committee demonstrated in neighborhood facilities, I am committing a substantial part of this resource to grantsmanship activities in support of unfunded Block Grant neighborhood facilities projects. Another part will be assigned to major unfunded projects in other Block Grant categories (e.g. Winterization of Residential Structures with Lower-Income Occupants); and a final part will be used to seek funds for other projects (outside the Block Grant process) that have strong potential for benefitting lower-income Cambridge citizens.
5. Haggerty Neighborhood Center (Project H-27) - This project ranked sixth among the 152 voted on by the Committee and second among the 28 neighborhood facility projects. As part of the current-year Block Grant effort, a study of neighborhood facilities needs has been made

and has concluded that there is a need for an addition to the Haggerty School that should include, at a minimum, a gymnasium, a cafeteria, and some additional school/community space. In my January 21 memorandum to the Advisory Committee, I said the following about Project H-27: "Handle as school construction -- State matching funds possible." Based on the later meetings with the Advisory Committee, I am reconfirming herewith the further statements I made at the January 26 meeting, as follows: (a) Paul Feloney, our architect for the Fletcher School renovation, will provide a cost estimate for the proposed Haggerty addition; (b) if the estimate is in the \$500,000 to \$600,000 range, I will urge the School Department to go forward with the addition, and I will put my personal initiative behind the project, because it makes sense. However, I would not interfere with the School Department's current schedule, which places Fletcher School in top priority status. Finally, based on comments at the January 31 meeting of 15 Committee members with David Vickery, I am pledging myself to take whatever steps necessary to ensure that the additional "school/community space" will remain available to the community on a permanent basis.

6. Human Services Coordination and Monitoring - At the meeting of January 31 between fifteen Advisory Committee members and David Vickery, there was unanimous support for one committee member's call for (a) increased efforts to economize in the area of human services administration by consolidating the management, equipment, etc. of the City's many human service programs (public and private) wherever possible; and (b) increased efforts to monitor effectively the work that is being done with the substantial funds provided in the Title XX projects. While both these efforts are under way as part of our Block Grant-funded "Planning and Coordination of Social Services" project (G-23 in the Fiscal 1977-78 application), I will make certain that staffing of this demanding function is adequate for making substantial progress on "a" and "b" above during the year ahead.
7. North Cambridge CASPAR Facility (Project H-6) - This project ranked tenth among the 152 projects voted on by the Advisory Committee, and fourth among the 28 neighborhood facility projects. The facility will be provided at 11 Russell Street, North Cambridge, in an historic building. Renovation of the building and its grounds is well under way, and there is now a strong possibility that it can be completed without additional funding. However, should this not turn out to be the case, I will review the unmet needs again.

8. Veterans' Posts - This year there were four Veterans' Post applications submitted under Neighborhood Facilities. I recognize and endorse the City's commitment to its veterans of military service and to their organizations. The City Council's substantial allocation of property-tax funds to Veterans' Benefits, and to payments of rents, etc., for Veterans' Posts, bears witness to this commitment. I would have liked nothing better than to fund these relatively modest requests for rehabilitation of four of our Veterans' Posts. Unfortunately, however, when faced with 28 neighborhood facilities requests -- all worthy, and totalling well over \$1 million -- I could initially do no more than fund three small projects that are holdovers from last year's application process. The remainder we will try to help through our grantsmanship function if approved by HUD. In the case of the Veterans' Posts, I am further specifically directing the Community Development Department to work with the Committee of Elders and the Veterans Department to explore the possibility that expanded sharing of Veterans Posts with the elderly can be achieved on a practical basis. Should this be found possible in one or more cases, and rehabilitation costs be involved, I will review these costs in light of the dual benefit to be achieved.

9. Walden Square Neighborhood Facility - This project, H-21, involves a request for \$40,000 to convert the existing open play-shed in the field between the Walden Square Apartments and the Cambridge Friends School into an enclosed building that can be used for after-school and weekend supervised programs. As covered in Item #8 above, I have been unable to fund the many worthwhile neighborhood facilities projects submitted as part of the Year #3 application process; but I am hoping that other funding will be developed during the next few years for at least those projects that would not, when completed, involve the City in new on-going operations and maintenance costs. In the case of the proposed Walden Square Neighborhood Facility, I am asking the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to have his Lead Person on neighborhood facilities work with Just-A-Start Corporation to explore the possibility that Just-A-Start teams can do a substantial part of the required construction. This follows up on a proposal initially made by Just-A-Start -- to its credit.

10. Wellington-Harrington Urban Renewal Project - A great deal of concern was expressed by the Wellington-Harrington Citizens Committee about my reduction of their \$520,000 request to a funding level of \$450,000. As explained to representatives of the Committee, I took into account the fact that the City recently submitted an application to HUD for a \$2.4 million grant to the Wellington-Harrington Project

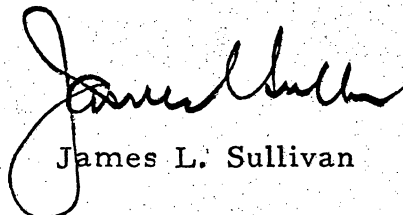
from the Block Grant "Urgent Needs" fund. Our earlier goal had been a total Wellington-Harrington Year #3 budget of about \$1.1 million. I am hopeful that through Urgent Needs and/or new urban renewal funding being proposed by the Carter Administration (\$300 million over 3 years -- beginning October 1, 1977 -- for a "Categorical Program Financial Settlement Fund") we can complete at least the critical aspects of the Wellington-Harrington Project without a heavy drain on Block Grant funds that should increasingly be shared quite equally by all Block Grant target areas in Cambridge. In saying this, I want to underscore two related points: (a) I am very aware of the outstanding work that has been done by citizens and staff persons working together in the Wellington-Harrington Project during the last twelve years; and (b) I am satisfied that whatever in the Wellington-Harrington Urban Renewal Plan remains unfinished when HUD's special urban renewal close-out funds are exhausted can subsequently be accomplished -- over a reasonable and practical period of years -- through Block Grant activities shared by all the City's target neighborhoods.

* * * * *

In closing this report to the Block Grant Advisory Committee, I want to take this opportunity to again express my appreciation for the productive work its members have done in the Year #3 application process. While it is difficult for all of us to see two projects out of three emerge from the process unfunded -- at least at this stage -- I believe that in most cases the process of articulating both the need and the rough outlines of a project that responds to the need can be of real, long-term benefit to the City. As long as citizens concur in this concept, and remain undiscouraged by initial failure of approximately two projects in three, we can continue with this approach.

Thank you again. I and my staff look forward to working with you in the Block Grant efforts ahead.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan

Legal Notice regarding:

A Filing of Application

B New Procedure for Distribution of
Environmental Review Information

(Boston Herald American - Cambridge/
Somerville Page, April 19, 1977)

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE,

In conformance with Federal Regulation CFR Title 24, Chapter V, Part 570.300 (b) citizens of Cambridge and other interested parties are hereby notified that the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has received for processing on April 14, 1977, the City of Cambridge application for year #3 Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Funds in the amount of \$3,458,000. Copies of the application may be obtained by contacting the Block Grant coordinator at 976-6800, ext. 355 (Community Development Department, 57 Inman Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02139).

In conformance with Federal Regulation CFR Title 24, Part 58.17, citizens of Cambridge and other interested parties are hereby advised that copies of newspaper advertisements about Block Grant Project Environmental Clearance actions will be sent to: (1) the State agencies on the Office of State Planning's "Clearing House" list; (2) the Chief Executives of Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Somerville, and Watertown, and (3) other interested parties, on request. Persons wishing to receive the Environmental Clearance notices, or wishing further information about the Environmental Clearance process can contact the Block Grant Coordinator (see paragraph above).

JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

City of Cambridge

Title 24 — Housing and Urban Development
Part 58 — Environmental review Procedure for the Community Development Block Grant Program

Notice of Finding No Significant Effect on the Environment (No E.I.S.)
Re: The Cambridge Community Development Block Grant Program.
The Applicant has found that the projects have no significant effect on the environment.

1. Roosevelt Towers Tenant Management.
2. Newtowne Court Gym Renovation.
3. Housing Rehabilitation and Conservation Program; Removal of Condemned or Abandoned Buildings.
4. Public Housing Modernization.
5. Residents Recycling, Inc. Program.
6. Renovation of East Cambridge Boy's Club; Renovation of Rindge Shelter.
7. Sacramento Field Open Space Acquisition and Development.
8. Neighborhood Four Playgrounds.
9. Recreational and Educational Support for an Elderly Center and Congregate Housing Facility; North Cambridge Health and Social Service Center, Inc.; Elder's Food Van; The Sanctuary Leadership Development Program; Security Coordinator/Planner for Cambridge Housing Authority; Planning/Coordination of Human resources; Family Life Education Services to the Portuguese Community; Service Center for Cost-Effective Child Care; Elderly Resource Management Coordinatory Family Life Counseling Services and Training; Provision of Human Service Program to Public Housing Tenants; Human Services Partnership Planning; Elderly Intra-City Transportation; "Elder-Hire"; Elderly Housing Referral Service; North Cambridge Food Coop.
10. Sennet Park Improvements; Better Playgrounds/Parks; Renovations to Rindge Field; Playground For All Children; Totlot Improvements; Clarendon Avenue Park Plus Playground Development; Russell Field Improvements; Hastings Square Refurbishment - Phase II; Cambridge Common Renovation; Cambridge Highlands Field Improvements.
11. Third Year Community Development Block Grant and Urgent Needs Activities of Wellington-Harrington Neighborhood Improvement Program Project Number Mass. R-108.
12. Street, Curb and Sidewalk Improvement and Tree Planting Programs; 1% for Art; Huron Avenue Neighborhood Shopping Center Project.
13. Relocation.

The applicant has prepared an Environmental Review Record respecting the described programs. The Record may be examined and copied in the office of the Community Development Department, City Hall Annex, 3rd Floor, 57 Inman Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. No further environmental review of said program is proposed to be conducted. The Applicant intends to request HUD to release funds for such project. Comments may be submitted to the Applicant until May 4, 1977, which is not less than 15 days following this publication.

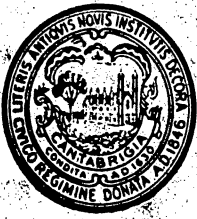
City of Cambridge, Applicant
James L. Sullivan, City Manager
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts (April 19, 1977)

Legal Notice regarding:

Finding of No Significant Environmental
Effect from Year #3 Block Grant Projects,
and regarding:

Opportunity for Objection to Funding

(Boston Herald American - Cambridge/
Somerville Page, April 19, 1977)



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

City Hall Annex Inman & Broadway EXTENSION 344

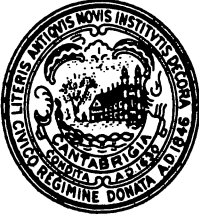
To James L. Sullivan, City Manager
From David R. Vickery, Assistant City Manager **Date** April 19, 1977
for Community Development
Subject Block Grant Year #3 Application

Transmitted herewith is our Block Grant Year #3 Application in the amount of \$3,458,000. as submitted to HUD on April 14th for the 75-day review.

I am also sending copies direct to Mayor Vellucci, Paul Healy, and Evelyn Rabouin. Copies will be sent to the City Council with a cover memorandum from you.

As required by HUD, we are advertising the availability of the application to the public. The advertisements are scheduled to appear in the Chronicle and the Herald American on April 21st.

cc: Mayor Alfred E. Vellucci
✓ Paul E. Healy, City Clerk
Evelyn Rabouin, Affirmative Action Officer



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

April 20, 1977

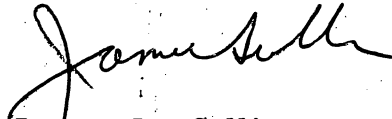
To The Honorable, the City Council

Dear City Councilors:

Transmitted herewith for your information and use is the City's final Block Grant Year #3 Application, in the amount of \$3,458,000. The application received "clearing house" approval from the State on April 6th -- subject to certain conditions we are able to meet -- and was submitted to HUD on April 14th for the 75-day Federal review.

Should you have any questions about the details of the application, please contact David Vickery, Assistant City Manager for Community Development, or Edward Handy, Block Grant Coordinator.

Very truly yours,


James L. Sullivan
City Manager

Agenda #3 F-137

Final Block Grant Year #3 Application in the amount of \$3,458,000.

In City Council,
April 25, 1977

4/25/77
Placed on File