



City of Cambridge

7.
IN CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Walsh

March 12, 1990

WHEREAS: While people are not mere numbers or statistics to be counted, it is essential to understand that numbers count, and count heavily, when it comes to people being represented appropriately by the number of their elected representatives and in receiving the appropriate funding grants (totalling almost \$40 billion nationwide) which are distributed in large part on the basis of population counts. This is why April 1, 1990 is so important a day. It is Census Day 1990 throughout the United States. And,

WHEREAS: The last national census in 1980 has been criticised intensely because it was flawed by an undercounting of the population, particularly of the minority population. This flaw must not be allowed to flourish again in this 1990 census. Here in Massachusetts where we face a loss of at least one congressional seat with its impact on the number of electoral votes, an undercount would impose a costly price which the people of the Commonwealth should not be forced to pay. And,

WHEREAS: Our city government must do everything it can to urge residents of all households to take the time to fill out and mail back the census forms which will be sent to their homes later this month; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager assure that the following initiatives will be undertaken immediately:

That the City's Cable TV Office broadcast, as often as possible on a regular basis, a plea to Cambridge residents to participate in providing an accurate census count and that this be made a personal priority to be completed on or before April 1, 1990;

That the Cambridge School Department, in addition to offering census assistance tables at the various community schools, also send notices home with each student urging all family members to complete and mail the census form by April 1, 1990;



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That the Department of Human Services communicate with the various ethnic groups throughout the City to make sure that no resident is either forgotten or feels forgotten so far as being counted in the census. The Director of the Council on Aging is urged to make this plea a part of the monthly newsletter which is provided to the City's Senior Citizens. A special effort should be made by the Assistant City Manager for Human Services to include those who are in shelters. The U.S. Census Bureau has indicated that March 20 and 21 will be the special days to reach out to this sector of the population.

That the Community Development Department communicate with each Neighborhood Committee throughout the City and urge the leaders thereof to make participation in the census a Number One priority in their agenda on or before April 1, 1990.

That the Director and members of the Civic Unity Committee request religious leaders throughout the City, through their bulletins and/or personal remarks during the weekend of April 1, 1990, to urge members of their communities to take part actively in working for an honest accurate count by filling out and mailing back the census form to the U.S. Census Bureau;

That each City employee be given a written reminder to fill out and return a completed census form for his/her household;

And, be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to this Council in one week to confirm that these actions are underway.



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WHEREAS: While people are not mere numbers or statistics to be counted, it is essential to understand that numbers count, and count heavily, when it come to people being represented appropriately by the number of their elected representatives and in receiving the appropriate funding grants (totalling almost \$40 billion nationwide) which are distributed in large part on the basis of population counts. This is why **April 1, 1990** is so important a day. It is **Census Day 1990** throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS: The last national census in 1980 has been criticized intensely because it was flawed by an undercounting of the population, particularly of the minority population. This flaw must not be allowed to flourish again in this 1990 census. Here in Massachusetts where we face a loss of at least one congressional seat with its impact on the number of electoral votes, an undercount would impose a costly price which the people of the Commonwealth should not be forced to pay; and

WHEREAS: Our city government must do everything it can to urge residents of all households to take the time to fill out and mail back the census forms which will be sent to their homes later this month; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager assure that the following initiatives will be undertaken immediately:

1. That the City's Cable TV Office broadcast, as often as possible on a regular basis, a plea to Cambridge residents to participate in providing an accurate census count and that this be made a personal priority to be completed on or before April 1, 1990;
2. That the Cambridge School Department, in addition to offering census assistance tables at the various community schools, also send notices home with each student urging all family members to complete and mail the census form by April 1, 1990;
3. That the Department of Human Services communicate with the various ethnic groups throughout the City to make sure that no resident is either forgotten or feels forgotten so far as being counted in the Census. The Director of the Council on Aging is urged to make this plea a part of the monthly newsletter which is provided to the City's Senior Citizens. A special effort should be made by the Assistant City Manager for Human Services to include those who are in shelters. The U.S. Census Bureau has indicated that March 20 and 21 will be the special days to reach out to this sector of the population.

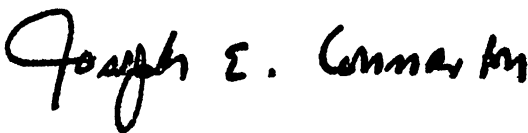
4. That the Community Development Department communicate with each Neighborhood Committee throughout the city and urge the leaders thereof to make participation in the census a Number One priority in their agenda on or before April 1, 1990.
5. That the Director and members of the Civic Unity Committee request religious leaders throughout tyhe City, through their bulletins and/or personal remarks during the weekend of April 1, 1990, to urge members of their communities to take part actively in working for an honest accurate count by filling out and mailing back the census form to the U. S. Census Bureau;
6. That each City employee be given a written reminder to fill out and return a completed census form for his/her hcousehold; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to this City Council in one week to confirm that these actions are underway.

In City Council March 12, 1990.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.



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- WHEREAS: While people are not mere numbers or statistics to be counted, it is essential to understand that numbers count, and count heavily, when it come to people being represented appropriately by the number of their elected representatives and in receiving the appropriate funding grants (totalling almost \$40 billion nationwide) which are distributed in large part on the basis of population counts. This is why **April 1, 1990** is so important a day. It is **Census Day 1990** throughout the United States; and
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ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to this City Council in one week to confirm that these actions are underway.

MAR. 12 1990

City Council _____

Adopted by the affirmative vote

of 9 members

Joseph E. Conorton City Clerk

Order # 7 *S-225*

Councillor Walsh re: Census Day, April 1,
1990.

In City Council,

March 12, 1990

Order adopted