



# City of Cambridge

19.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
February 14, 1994

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY  
COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR MYERS  
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

**ORDERED:** That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Law Department to draft amendments to the Cambridge Noise Ordinance to accomplish objectives raised in the attached letter.

In City Council February 14, 1994.  
Adopted by the affirmative vote of seven members.  
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*  
D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

January 31, 1994

City Manager Robert Healy  
Mayor Kenneth Reeves  
Vice Mayor Sheila Russell  
Councillor Kathy Born  
Councillor Frank Duehay  
Councillor Jonathan Meyers  
Councillor Michael Sullivan  
Councillor Timothy Toomey  
Councillor Katherine Triantifilou  
Councillor William Walsh

BUILDING NOISE FROM 38 AND 64 SYDNEY STREET

In November of 1993 following a letter written by Brookline Street residents, Councillor Alice Wolf submitted an order requesting that the City Manger's office look into a building noise problem generated by Forest City Buildings on Sydney Street. As a result of that order Inspectional Services has made new decibel readings. These data were submitted to the Planning Board at a hearing on December 21, 1993 which was planned independently of the above order. We were pleased to have a chance to discuss this with the Planning Board.

We have three requests 1) that the city assist us in our work with Forest City to solve this noise problem; 2) that the Planning Board think about building noise and its impact on residential areas when granting permits for future projects; and 3) a new noise ordinance be written addressing this specific kind of noise problem.

We think and the Planning Board apparently agreed that the noise being generated by the stack vents on these buildings is a serious problem. First it is already noisy for neighbors, second when the new Forest City buildings are built, and the Home Owner's Rehab housing is built, residents and R and D buildings will be that much closer to each other. (Indeed, the funding for the Home Owner's Rehab housing mandates that they, too will have air conditioning units.)

At the Planning Board meeting, we requested that a new ordinance be developed that will prevent this problem from occurring in the future. This is a different kind of noise than what is currently covered by the noise ordinance which was written to deal primarily with music played in the street and bars. Building noise is constant and immobile. At the Planning Board meeting, members of the CDD expressed an interest working on developing such legislation.

We would like the Council to act on developing such an ordinance as quickly as possible. We are left still with the problem of the noise as it presently exists. We plan to ask for further assistance from the Inspectional Services in this matter. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this with members of the City Council and would like to be present when the City Manager's office reports back on this problem.

Yours truly,

Margaret Lynn  
69 Brookline St

Pull Cavellini  
158 Brookline St.

Jan Pucibello  
69 Brookline St

Tess Ewing (Tess Ewing)  
104 AUBURN ST

Wouts Riu  
104 Auburn St  
Cambridge

Mike Byrne  
158 Brookline

Peter Valentine  
37 Brookline St.

Robert D. Jany  
53 BROOKLINE

Mike Jensen  
53 Brookline St

Jon Elding  
51 Brookline St

cc: Peter Caulkins, Forest City Management  
Michael Rosenberg, Assistant City Manager  
Paul Dietrich, City of Cambridge Planning Board  
Peter Daly, Home Owner's Rehab Inc.



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*Born, Myers, Triantafyllou*  
Consent Order #19

*CM-31*

Councillor Duehay re: Draft  
amendments to the Cambridge Noise  
Ordinance.

*Order Adopted*

In City Council,

February 14, 1994