



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Mr. James Sullivan
City Manager

Date October 8, 1976

From Francis L. Comunale, M.D.
Commissioner

Reference City Council Order #22
September 27, 1976

Subject Inspection of Police Station, 5 Western Avenue

As a follow up to Mr. Nicoloro's inspection of Police Headquarters on October 5, 1976, I personally visited and inspected the station on Thursday, October 7, 1976, and in addition to the findings mentioned in his report, I found the following:

1. Storage areas are far too small with improper stacking of materials and goods thus making it extremely difficult to clean, as well as, preventing adequate and efficient application of roach insecticide.
2. Office space appears to be a premium, leading to over crowding, with resultant poor ventilation and easy spread of infection and cross contamination.
3. Refuse, both free and in trash bags, was noted on the roof of the second floor directly under the third floor window of a room used to prepare and serve food. This is also in the area of the building which according to reports has the heaviest roach infestation.
4. The Auxiliary Police Office is just off the garage and easily permeated by gasoline odors which along with the poor ventilation may create a potential health hazard.
5. A room off the garage was over loaded with debris and old light fixtures which is already in the process of being cleaned.

Discussion - One must keep in mind that this is an extremely old building with a high potential for roach infestation to begin with. In addition, there is a constant influx and storage of materials and cartons which may harbor roaches themselves. Therefore, any dirt, left over food, etc. will lead to excessive and uncontrollable infestation.



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Recommendations - After a thorough cleaning of the building and roof top, the space occupied by the force should be increased to a far greater portion of the building to allow for:

1. Increased office space thereby eliminating overcrowding, provide better ventilation, and decrease the potential for cross infection and contamination.
2. Increased storage space so that all articles may be stored on shelving 12" off the ground and stacking in corners avoided thereby allowing for thorough cleaning and proper extermination procedures.
3. No food preparation or large scale food services should be allowed in the building.
4. Weekly extermination services of all areas should be carried out on the same day of the week; no room should be skipped.
5. New urinals, hoppers, and plumbing now on order should be installed as soon as they are received.
6. All holes in the walls, ceilings, and floors should be filled in immediately.
7. All crates and boxes shipped in for storage should be sprayed with insecticide as soon as possible; after arrival.
8. The Auxiliary Police Office should be moved from the basement to an upper level where ventilation is better and away from gasoline fumes.
9. All civil defense food stuff currently being stored should be removed.



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I believe that if the above recommendations are carried out as soon as possible, the roach problem may be controlled to the point as to prevent over infestation.

emp



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To Francis Comunale, M.D.
Commissioner

Date October 5, 1976

From Joseph Nicoloro *JMN.*
Sanitary Inspector

Reference

Subject Inspection of Police Station 5 Western Avenue

Re: City Council Order #22
September 27, 1976

Please be advised that an inspection of the Cambridge Police Headquarters was conducted on Monday, October 4, 1976 by Joseph DeLeo and myself. Accompanying us were Leo Davenport, Acting Chief, and Frank Adams, Public Works Department.

The following violations of General Laws, Chapter 111, Section 21 were noted:

1st Floor

- A) CELL AREA - Repair toilet facility in following cells:
#11, 16, 17, 20, 23 and 24
- B) Drain waste pipe room - pipes in need of repair - multiple water leaks.
- C) Women's Cell Area - Room 31 Light inoperable - exposed bulb. Repair toilet facility in Cell #32 and #35. Clean Cell #36.
- D) Men's Room - Repair urinal. Supply paper hand towels.
- E) Shower and Locker Room - Provide seat for toilet. Secure door to hinges. Clean all janitor sink rooms.

2nd Floor

- A) Men's Room - Repair urinal. Secure shower partition to floor. Clean small closet room.

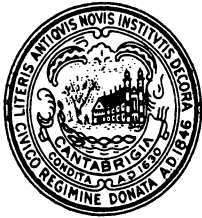
Basement

- A) Room #19 - Toilet not vented.
- B) Room #14 (Outside) - Replace floor tiles. Repair water bubler.

Boiler-Pump Room

A) Remove all unusable material and debris.

Roach infestation was noted throughout building, however, there was no sign of Rodent infestation (either live, dead or rodent droppings). Mr. Adams of Public Works stated that on many occasions a complete extermination of the building was not possible due to many locked doors.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

October 18, 1976

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report No. 7 (Council Order No. 22 of September 27, 1976), enclosed are copies of the inspection reports of the Police Station. The first inspection was made by Environmental Sanitation Inspector Joseph Nicoloro. The second report was submitted by Acting Commissioner of Health and Hospitals Dr. Francis Comunale, who was accompanied by Conrad Fagone and Robert Healy on his inspection tour.

As the report details, no evidence of rodents was observed. However, testimony as to the presence of roaches was obtained and arrangements have been made for weekly extermination of all offices.

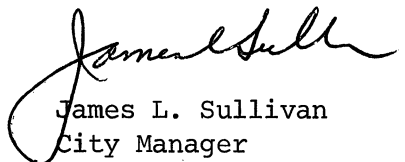
Also, replacement parts for broken plumbing fixtures in the cell block area have been ordered and will be installed immediately upon delivery.

In the area of capital improvements, the City is applying under the Public Works Bill for a major renovation project to include heating and ventilation for which detailed plans and specifications have been completed, as well as preliminary plans for the entire building.

However, if this renovation is to be effective, as is evidenced by Dr. Comunale's report, it is necessary to increase the area of the building available for police use. Therefore, I am recommending a consolidation of the space currently occupied by two veterans' organizations. This consolidation will provide individual and separate office space, but will require the sharing of the large function hall. Based on current usage this should not present any scheduling difficulties.

The long-range improvements in the Police facility will far outweigh any minor difficulties caused by this consolidation.

Very truly yours,


James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf
Enc. 2

Agenda #5.

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Response to Awaiting Report No. 7 re: to
conditions at Police Headquarters.

In City Council,
October 18, 1976

10/18/96

Placed on File