

5.51.0001.00
Cambridge, Mass.
March 7, 1991

Mr. James Maloney,
Finance Director
City of Cambridge

Dear Mr. Maloney:

It was with great interest and grave concern that I read your article in the Chronicle (2/7/91) concerning the severe fiscal problems our city is encountering. Yes, like many other cities and towns in the State, "We're looking at a very bleak future".

No doubt, you are aware that in April, 1990, the City Council appropriated one million dollars to Area Four Task Force for the building of a "Teen Center" supposedly in Area IV, but more into Area VI, as I see it! Regardless, my question is can the city afford such a facility?

I also call your attention to an article in the Chronicle (Jan. 1991), whereby the City is planning to build a new citywide senior center. My question is, again, can the city afford another

"tax-exempt" building if we are in such a time, when "We have sizeable fiscal problems unlike anything the city has seen in ten (10) years"?

Last, but not least, my question is: Can you justify the City placing such a tremendous financial responsibility on the taxpayers, what with all the economic problems we are now facing?

Please bear in mind, that practically all the original taxpayers left in our City are on a fixed income and cannot afford even the slightest increase. Surely, it will not have the same impact on the more recent taxpayers (those who have come into the city within the past ten or fifteen years), who have come into Cambridge and smothered us with their investment developments.

I'm sure, if our city government combined, that they could, with their wisdom and expertise, come up with some present facilities among our already owned City properties to serve the purposes for which these programs are seeking. Maybe, it's a good time to re-access all the city's property and see if we can't come up with some alternatives!!!

Please bear in mind, the city of Cambridge must remember, "Top priority should be given to their people"!!

Copy: City Manager
City Council

Sincerely, Mary Daly

F-168

CONSENT

Communication from Mary Daly regarding fiscal
concerns of the City.

In City Council,

March 18, 1991

Placed on file