

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM of CAMBRIDGE

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864-6388

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

March 31, 1987

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CAMBRIDGE MA.

Dear Councillors,

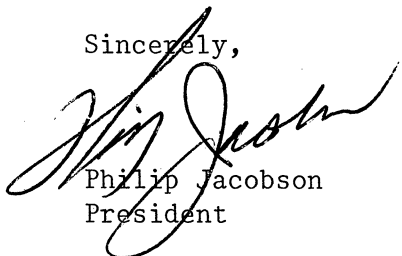
This letter is being written to express our concern in the matter of the Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Program. Specifically, we fear that in the absence of adequate written guidelines for the Program, exchanges conducted under the auspices of the City of Cambridge may be discriminatory.

We have reached this conclusion after acquainting ourselves with the position expressed by Action for Soviet Jewry in an article appearing in the March 26th edition of the Cambridge Chronicle. That article advocates the inclusion of provisions within the sister city agreement which would ensure that no one is denied access to the Program or its exchanges for political or religious reasons. The article also argues that continuation of the Program should depend on compliance with these provisions.

At its regular meeting on March 29th, the Board of Directors of Temple Beth Shalom of Cambridge voted to support the position of Action for Soviet Jewry and to express this support to the City Council. We are opposed to any sister city agreement which would not protect the right of Jews and others out of favor with the Soviet government to participate.

Temple Beth Shalom is the only Jewish institution not affiliated with a university to remain in Cambridge today. Because of this, we are aware that we have a special responsibility to speak out. We feel compelled to remind the City Council that in granting its authority to a program- no matter how noble its purpose- our most cherished principles have to be protected. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Philip Jacobson
President

3.

CS-238

Comm. from Philip Jacobson, Pres., Temple Beth Shalom of Cambridge, expressing concern Re: Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Program & expressing opposition to any sister city agreement which would not protect the rights of Jews & others out of favor with the Soviet government to participate.

In City Council,

April 6, 1987

Referred to Hearing
at 7:00 p.m.
Hearing Held