

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Dear City Council Member,

The reporting in the Chronicle and the 'Tab' on recent events and issues in Central Square related to the growing community opposition to the Holmes Realty Trust proposal for an 11-story high-rise has been appalling. (But some of the letters have been great!)

I hope this letter will help shed some light on some of these matters and clarify the role of 'Save Central Square' in promoting responsible development in Central Square. *simonj, James M. Williamson*

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1997

CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE

LETTERS

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CAMBRIDGE MA.

Not a 'takeover'

"Save Central Square" is probably best understood as a broad-based, grassroots community movement to resist inappropriate and unwanted "development" in Central Square.

As someone actively engaged in this effort, I can say with certainty that "Save Central Square," as such, did not plan or carry out a "takeover" of any other group, contrary to the impression given by the Chronicle article of July 17.

Some people active in "Save Central Square" encouraged people in the neighborhood to join the "Neighborhood Coalition," pay their dues and help elect a reform slate of directors who would more accurately reflect the views of our community on the Holmes Realty Trust proposal.

This effort was blocked by some last-minute maneuvering by the chair of the Central Square "Neighborhood Coalition" — a move which led to a rancorous outcry from new members excluded from legitimate participation.

I was not among those who joined the "Neighborhood Coalition," but I did witness the meeting.

In addition to the many inaccuracies in the Chronicle report, it would have been nice if someone had bothered to check the version of the story supplied by Julia Gregory with someone involved with "Save Central Square."

JAMES WILLIAMSON
Perry Street

Consent Communications #64

5-484

Communication was received from James
Williamson, trasmitting his concern
to save Central Square.

In City Council August 4, 1997

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