

Members of the Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Members of the City Council:

The East Cambridge Stabilization Committee has voted to request the Cambridge City Council not to accept or to discontinue the roads presented to it for acceptance and discontinuance in the Kendall Square urban renewal area until the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority has addressed the problems which are and will be caused by the ongoing development of Kendall Square. We are making this request because we believe that the actual environmental and socio-economic impacts of the development of Kendall Square have not been adequately addressed by the CRA. When the CRA initially proposed development of the Kendall Square urban renewal area, East Cambridge residents approved the plans because they were assured that the development would have minimal adverse impact on them. This assurance was based on assumptions which time has proven wrong.

The CRA assumed that little or no development would occur in Kendall Square and the East Cambridge riverfront outside of the urban renewal area. It assumed that traffic diversion from Boston would remain constant between the years 1975 and 2000. It assumed that any needed roadway improvements would be in place before the new skyscrapers would be occupied. It assumed that its projects would have no impact on historic buildings. It assumed that 500,000 square feet of housing would be built within the urban renewal area. It assumed that demand for housing in East Cambridge would not substantially increase as a result of the CRA's actions. Though time has proven that all of these assumptions were false, the development of the Kendall Square urban renewal area is proceeding as initially planned. Even though good planning cannot take place in a vacuum, the CRA will not consider developing the Kendall Square urban renewal area less intensely in the light of today's environmental conditions.

In summary, conditions have changed, the CRA's plans have not and the residents of East Cambridge are being caught in the middle. Before the squeeze becomes intolerable, we ask the City to pause, study the situation in light of today's conditions and consider how to mitigate the unpredicted harm which is occurring.

Thank you in advance for your concern.

Very truly yours,

East Cambridge Stabilization Committee

By: Paul Dodds
Paul Dodds, Secretary Pro Tempore



City of Cambridge

15.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 24, 1985

COUNCILLOR DAVID SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR CLINTON

ORDERED:

That the request of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority for the City Council to discontinue certain public ways and to accept certain public ways within the Kendall Square Urban Renewal area be tabled until such time as the Authority responds to this City Council relative to the concerns and letter of complaint filed by the Quality Row Neighborhood Association, dated May 17, 1985 regarding the Kendall Square close-out cost, as well as a letter received June 24, 1985 from the East Cambridge Stabilization Committee.

In City Council June 24, 1985.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Paul E. Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

Order # 15

5-482

+ C. Clinton

C.D. Sullivan, order re: that the request of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority for the City Council to discontinue certain public ways & accept certain public ways in the Kendall Sq. Urban Renewal area be tabled until the Authority responds to the Council Re: concerns & letter of complaint filed by the Quality Row Neighborhood Assoc. & the East Cambridge Stabilization Committee.

6/24/85

- City Council
Requests ERD
Response to F.E.S.C.
and Quality Row
Neighborhood Assoc.

In City Council,

June 24, 1985

6/24/1985

QDS
cc
Trailing
Order Adopted
P

Adopted