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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

April 7, 1989

Mr. Robert Healy
City Manager
Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

RE: Complaint of Ms. Ann McLeod
34 Jackson Place
Excessive noise from adjoining apartment (37 Jackson Place)

Dear Mr. Healy:

This is a response to a complaint from a resident of the redeveloped Jefferson Park that excessive noise was being transmitted from the adjoining apartment.

This matter came to our attention originally via your referral of a letter from Councillor Walsh in December of 1988. After surveying the situation the CHA made several test holes in the pantry wall to check for the presence of insulation. The insulation was present.

Subsequently, the CHA received a communication in February from Inspectional Services requesting that CHA hire an engineer to perform sound tests in the apartment to determine if it met State Building code. The test was done and forwarded to Inspectional Services. Basically the test revealed that the second floor of the apartment met the state code while the first floor was borderline.

During this time Ms. McLeod obtained counsel from the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau and requested a hearing with the CHA's Grievance Panel. A hearing was scheduled for February 6, 1989, but postponed at the Grievant's request to March 29, 1989. The Grievant has subsequently requested yet another postponement until April.

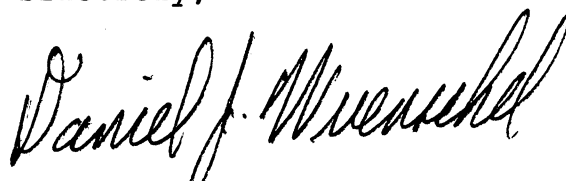
In an attempt to resolve this situation CHA staff has made the following offer to Ms. McLeod and her counsel.

1. Seal suspected sound leaks with acoustical sealant.
2. Seal all back to back electrical boxes.
3. Add an additional layer of 5/8" gypsum wallboard to the first floor partition.
4. Provide neoprene glides on chairs in the apartment next door.

It is important to note that Ms. McLeod's problem is, in part, due to her choosing to use her livingroom as a bedroom. Her bed is placed against the party wall adjacent to her neighbor's livingroom.

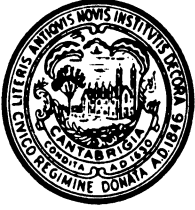
We feel that the remediation offered above is more than reasonable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. Wuenschel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'W'.

Daniel J. Wuenschel
Executive Director

DJW/dp



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

April 10, 1989

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report No. 22 regarding conditions at 37 Jackson Place, I submit the attached report from the Cambridge Housing Authority.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Agenda Item No. 20 *S-259*

Re: response to Awaiting Report Item 22 on
conditions at 37 Jackson St.

In City Council,

April 10, 1989

4-10-89

Placed on File.