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CASPAR Emergency Service Center
240 Albany Street
Cambridge, MA 02139 Tel. (617) 661-0600

November 3, 1994

To the Honorable Cambridge City Council
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Members of the Cambridge City Council:

Recently, the CASPAR Emergency Service Center (ESC) Advisory Committee mailed out a newsletter to the City Council and approximately 1000 other individuals and organizations who were involved in the CASPAR siting process. In the letter, we provided some background about the new center's many programs and also introduced a demand and capacity issue that has arisen since the facility opened in June.

The ESC provides more programs and services than were able to be accommodated in the old trailers. These include AA meetings, case management, medical treatment, a transitional program for sober guests, individual and group counseling, as well as other topical training. These successful programs have resulted in an increase in demand for the center's services. To be able to serve those who desire involvement in the center's programs, the ESC Advisory Committee is exploring the possibility of increasing the center's capacity from 55 guests, which is the current operational limit, to 72 guests, which is the facility's legal limit.

We want to be sure that anyone who is interested in talking with the ESC Advisory Committee about the center, its programs or the possibility of increasing the capacity to 72, has the opportunity to attend an open discussion on Wednesday, November 9, 1994 at 7 PM at the Substance Abuse Task Force Headquarters at 19R Brookline Street. At this meeting, the Advisory Committee will provide an overview of the center's operations and will describe the factors that are contributing to the necessity of a discussion about capacity. We welcome the public's input.

The main entrance to the Substance Abuse Task Force Headquarters is actually off of Green Street, one block east of the Green Street Parking Garage, on the left hand side, through a small parking lot to a building with two doors. There is sign there that says Substance Abuse Task Force Headquarters.

If you have any questions about the open discussion, please feel free to contact any member of the ESC Advisory Committee:

Susan Duley	Shelter, Inc.	864-8140
Ann Eldridge	Healthcare for the Homeless	661-8527
Sarah Gallop	MIT	253-0942
Harold Murphy	Cambridge Police Department	349-3309
Margaret Myers	Community Person	491-8745
Louise Olson	Central Square Neighborhood Coalition	497-4432
Rev. Willard Williams	Grace Methodist Church	776-2822
Gail Enman	CASPAR, Executive Director	628-3850
Win Poor	ESC Director	661-0600

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Consent Communication #5

A comm. was received from CASPAR regarding an open discussion with the ESC Advisory Committee on Wednesday, November 9, 1994 at 7PM at the Substance Abuse Task Force Headquarters at 19R Brookline Street.

In City Council November 7, 1994

Placed on file