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CAMBRIDGE MA.

Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 907, Cambridge, MA 02238

May 12, 1994

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge MA 02139

To the Honorable City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association to ask the City Council to hold a public hearing before it acts on the expected request by The Cambridge Hospital for an increase in bonding authority for its renovation and expansion project.

The Hospital's request raises a number of concerns about its project that Mid-Cambridge residents would like to bring to the attention of the City Council. Since a financial feasibility study was completed by Ernst and Young, a year and a half has passed, much more is known about various proposals for national health care reform and the implications for public hospitals, the project has been down-sized by 14 percent and the projected cost has risen by 15 percent.

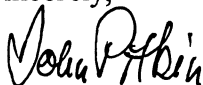
The Association is seeking reassurance that the City and its Hospital will be able to implement their commitments to protect and respect the residential neighborhood. Such reassurance is important because MCNA acceptance of the Hospital's project is based on these commitments, which were made in the City and Hospital's Memorandum of Understanding with this Association. The credibility of the commitments depends in part on the continued financial strength of the Hospital.

Also, the size of the project continues to be a concern for some neighborhood residents who feel that the down-sized proposal is still too large and strikes the wrong balance between on and off-site expansion.

The Association seeks a public airing of these issues in the near future. This request was initiated by the Association's Hospital Advisory Committee and was unanimously endorsed at a Neighborhood Meeting on April 27.

In a related action at the same meeting, the Association called for creation of a Hospital Parking Management District, as provided for in the City-Hospital-MCNA agreement, *before* construction starts at the Hospital. Creation of such a district will very probably require Council action. It might therefore be timely for the Council to consider holding a public hearing on this matter as well.

Sincerely,



John Pitkin
President

cc: John O'Brien

Cal #1
Consent Communication # 45290

Comm. from John Pitkin, President,
Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association,
requesting that the City Council
conduct a public hearing on the increase
in bonding authority for the
renovation and expansion project for
the Cambridge Hospital.

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In City Council,

May 16, 1994

*Charter Right Exercised
by Councillor Walsh*

*5/19/94 Pitkin notified of
hearing @*

*5/23/94 Referred to hearing
on June 13, 1994 at 7:00 P.M.*

5/26/94 notified of hearing @