



City of Cambridge

5.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 3, 1975

Councillor Vellucci

WHEREAS:

The accomplishments in the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood improvement area, and especially the Just-A-Start Program, the Harwell Homes, low-cost home rehabilitation, better playgrounds, and resident participation and control, have been significant since the inception of active work in the area late in 1967, and

WHEREAS:

The Federal Government has abandoned the categorical grant program in favor of the new Community Development Block Grant Program, thus limiting funding for such neighborhood improvement programs and for other community development activities throughout the City for 1975 to about four million dollars, and

WHEREAS:

Wellington-Harrington area activities during the first year of the Community Development Block Grant Program are presently estimated to require approximately \$920,000 in Block Grant funds, and at least \$920,000 in so-called "urgent needs" funds which are not part of the City's Block Grant entitlement, and

WHEREAS:

The City Manager has proposed to include in the proposed Block Grant application, \$100,000 for the Wellington-Harrington Just-A-Start Program as part of a \$725,000 city-wide rehabilitation effort, and \$619,000 for other Wellington-Harrington activities as a minimum level of funding, this year, toward the completion of the Wellington-Harrington program, and

WHEREAS:

\$300,000 for contingencies is also proposed to be included in this year's Block Grant application, and

WHEREAS:

"Urgent needs" funds, over and above the regular City entitlement for Block Grant purposes, are available for programs, such as the Wellington-Harrington, which are already in process and well on the way to completion, where there has already been a sizeable investment in neighborhood stabilization work, and where there is a substantial interest in early completion to make the program fully effective, and

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WHEREAS:

An orderly schedule for the early completion of the Wellington-Harrington program specifically aimed at December 31, 1977, has already been established for the purpose of keeping the City's cash outlays for the program to a minimum, therefore be it

RESOLVED:

1. That in view of the present limitation in Community Development Block Grant funds, the City Council request the Wellington-Harrington Citizens Committee, which it created in 1964 to plan and to oversee the carrying out of this important neighborhood stabilization program, re-think the improvement plan for the neighborhood area, approved by the City Council on December 27, 1965, with a view to the original objectives for neighborhood stabilization, possible plan modifications, and the completion of all originally scheduled neighborhood improvements at the earliest possible time, and at the lowest possible cost to the City.
2. That the City Manager, while including in the proposed Block Grant application, \$100,000 for the Wellington-Harrington Just-A-Start Program as part of the \$725,000 city-wide rehabilitation effort, and \$619,000 for other Wellington-Harrington activities as a minimum level of funding, this year, make application at the same time for net less than \$1,220,000 in "urgent needs" funds to permit continued progress toward the orderly and successful completion of the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood stabilization program without unduly-disrupting the use of Block Grant funds for other Cambridge neighborhoods.
3. That the City Manager consult with the City Council as to the use of the \$300,000 for Block Grant contingencies before making any commitment for its allocation or use.
4. That the City Manager request the Redevelopment Authority to report as soon as possible as to the legal and fiscal impact of terminating the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood stabilization program prematurely before December 31, 1977.

In City Council February 3, 1975.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy,

ATTEST: -

Paul E. Healy
CITY CLERK

*C. Graham recorded
in negative*

C. Vellusci re: Just-A-Start Program.

In City Council,

February 3, 1975

PV/A

*Adopted by the
Vote of 8 Members
Quorum Recorded
in the Negative*