



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

January 12, 1987

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

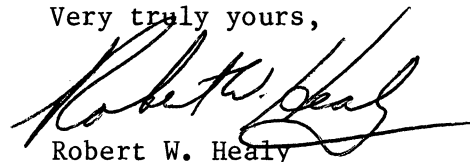
To the Honorable, the City Council:

Enclosed is a report recently compiled by the Department of Human Services which describes the problems of the homeless in Cambridge as well as other cities in the nation. The report reviews all efforts in which the City is currently involved and outlines those projects which are in various stages of development. This overview, however, only covers those initiatives in which the City is the provider of services. As indicated in the February, 1986 report to you on homelessness, there are many other agencies and organizations in the City which are providing critical pieces of the total spectrum of services to this population.

Representatives from each of the agencies and organizations working to address the problems of hunger and homelessness in Cambridge and Somerville are once again meeting on a monthly basis, with support and leadership from both cities to coordinate as well as plan for additional services. The first half of the agenda of each of these meetings is devoted to information sharing and presentations by providers of service. At the January 20th meeting, presentations are being made on services to the chronically mentally ill homeless. In the second portion of the meetings the Committee is divided into working groups in the areas of housing, services to the mentally ill, and emergency services. Each of these working groups is reviewing the services currently available in both cities and preparing recommendations for new initiatives. These recommendations will identify not only needed services but also potential providers of services and sources for financial support.

It would be my recommendation that the City Council permit this planning process to continue and I will keep the City Council apprised of the Committee's progress and recommendations.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/b

Agenda Item No. 5 *S-21*

Re: updated report on the City's response to
the issue of homelessness.

In City Council,

January 12, 1987

Placed on F. Li