



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

491 BROADWAY, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 • TEL. 876-0125

FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

THOMAS V. SCOTT
Chief of Department

November 2, 1987

Robert W. Healy, City Manager
Cambridge City Hall

Dear Mr. Healy:

On Wednesday, November 4, 1987, Engine Company #6, which is located on River Street, will be closed for extensive renovations. This work will take approximately 6 months with a penalty clause included for any delay beyond that time.

I am fully aware of the letter that Local #30 sent to each Councillor in regards to the fact that if Engine Company #6 was not relocated somewhere in their own district, close to their present station, that there would be an increase in response time to a fire or emergency in that particular area.

As of Wednesday my decision will be to quarter Engine Company #6 at Fire Headquarters. The response area of Engine Company #6 has been modified somewhat so as of Wednesday, they will be responding to a limited part of their original still alarm response area while Engine Company #2, located in Lafayette Square, will pick up the response to the remainder of Engine Company #6's area. In addition to this, there will be a back-up response of Engine Company #7 from Kendall Square, and Engine Company #1, at Fire Headquarters, to back-up either of these companies in the event they are tied-up at another incident.

Myself and other Chief Officers in the department have checked the area for any space which would be suitable for the locating of temporary quarters during the period that renovations at River Street were underway. The only lot we found was the space located on Putnam Avenue, between River and Pleasant Streets, where the electric light company stores their light poles. At best, the light company would be inconvenienced since we would need the greater part of the lot

and it would present them with the problem of trying to maneuver around any structure that may be in the yard.

I understand the importance of Public Safety, and I am fully aware of what can happen at any particular incident but I firmly believe that the relocating of Engine Company #6 to Fire Headquarters is the reasonable solution at this time.

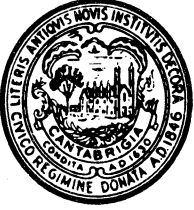
We must keep in mind that due to the number of incidents we receive throughout the city, we cannot guarantee that in the event of a fire or emergency that we will always have an Engine Company, Ladder Company, or Rescue Company responding at all times from their own quarters. For instance, on occasion Ladder Company #2 located at Cambridge and Second Streets has had to respond to a call to the lower end of Brookline Street which takes anywhere from 7-10 minutes depending on the time of day or night. Just last Monday night during a 3rd alarm fire we did not have a Ladder Company available in the city for approximately 10 minutes, so when we talk about delayed response as the Union did in their letter to the Councillors there are many factors that have to be taken into consideration.

Although we do not like to remove any company from their quarters for a length of time, I am very happy that a sum of money has been appropriated to renovate this particular station which has been in a deplorable condition for so many years, and again, I would like to extend my thanks to the City Council, City Manager Robert Healy, and Deputy City Manager Richard Rossi, for their time and effort extended to our department to get this renovation work under-way.

We met with the contractor, Mr. Lenny Campo, on Thursday, October 29, 1987, and in his opinion he could see no reason why he would encounter problems on completing the work on time. If near the end of the work we found that there was no danger or inconvenience to the members, we would certainly move the company back to the station while the finishing touches were being done.

Sincerely,

Thomas V. Scott
Chief Thomas V. Scott
Fire Headquarters



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

November 23, 1987

To the Honorable, the City Council:

With reference to City Council Order No. 2 of October 19, 1987, I transmit herewith communication received from Chief Thomas V. Scott, Fire Department, relative to the Fire Station located on River Street.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/b

Re: enclosed report from Chief Thomas V.
Scott, Fire Dept., Re: Fire Station loca-
ted on River St.

In City Council,

November 23, 1987

Placed on file

11-23-87