



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Daniel Wuenschel, Executive Director
Cambridge Housing Authority

Date February 9, 1983

From Paul E. Healy, City Clerk

Reference

Subject re-scheduling of a hearing before the City
Council regarding CHA activities

Please be advised that the City Council has re-scheduled a continued hearing to discuss activities of the Cambridge Housing Authority throughout the City. Said hearing had been scheduled to be held on Monday, February 7, 1983, but the meeting scheduled for that date was cancelled due to inclement weather.

The City Council has re-scheduled this hearing to be held on Monday, February 14, 1983 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, City Hall. The Council further requests your presence at this hearing and the presence of Gerard Clark and members of the Cambridge Housing Authority planning team.

Your kind cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated both by this office and the City Council.

PEH/mh



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Daniel Wuenschel, Executive Director
Cambridge Housing Authority

Date February 1, 1983

From Paul E. Healy, City Clerk

Reference

Subject Continuation of hearing before the City Council
to February 7, 1983 at 5:30 p.m. regarding CHA
activities

Please be advised that the City Council after hearing held at its meeting of January 31, 1983 has requested that the hearing to discuss activities of the Cambridge Housing Authority throughout the City be continued until Monday, February 7, 1983. Said hearing has been scheduled to be held on that date in the City Council Chamber at 5:30 p.m.

The City Council further requests your presence at this hearing and the presence of Gerard Clark and members of the Cambridge Housing Authority planning team.

Your kind cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated both by this office and the City Council.

PEH/mh

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Robert W. Healy
City Manager

FROM: Daniel J. Wuenschel *DJW/ke*
Executive Director

RE: Recent CHA Accomplishments

DATE: January 27, 1983

Over the past four years the Cambridge Housing Authority has brought over \$40 million dollars to the City of Cambridge for capitol improvements to our existing developments and for development of new public housing. Listed below are the major uses of the above-referenced funds.

I. Existing Developments

a. The \$12 million dollar redevelopment of Washington Elms is currently advertised for public bid. Reconstruction of the Washington Elms Development into townhouses and duplexes featuring individual entries and private yards is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 1983.

b. The \$6 million dollar rehabilitation of the Roosevelt Towers eight-story building and the grounds of the entire development was completed in August of last year. This rehabilitation resulted in the return of 75 units of public housing to the City.

c. A \$15 million dollar redevelopment of the Jefferson Park Extension is scheduled for construction starting this Spring. This work will convert the existing three-story walk-up flats to duplexes and triplexes providing much larger modern apartments with private entries and yard space. Also included in this effort is a new health clinic and day care center to be constructed along Rindge Avenue, as well as a bridge over the railroad tracks from Jefferson Park to Fresh Pond Shopping Center. This project will return an additional 35 units of family public housing to low-income citizens of Cambridge.

d. The CHA's smaller family developments such as Corcoran Park, Lincoln Way, Putnam Gardens, Jackson Gardens, and Woodrow Wilson Court have been continuously modernized by installing new insulating glass windows, new siding, improvements to the heating plants, and renovation work in kitchens and bathrooms.

II. New Developments

a. 45 Linnaean Street was completed in early 1982 adding 24 additional elderly housing units to the CHA inventory. This particular development represents the first elderly housing alternative in Neighborhood 9.

b. River Howard Homes was completed in September of 1981 in cooperation with RCCC. This development added 32 townhouse and duplex units for low-income families of Cambridge.

c. Putnam School will be ready for occupancy in March of this year featuring 24 standard elderly housing units and three congregate elderly housing units in this beautiful renovated school building.

d. 2050 Mass. Avenue is currently being bid for construction. This complex will add 51 units of new elderly housing in the Porter Square neighborhood. It will also include commercial space.

In addition to the capital improvements and additions outlined above, the CHA was able to make progress in other areas as well. A brief listing of some of these accomplishments follows:

I. In early 1981 the CHA obtained Federal and State permission to offer a preference to citizens of Cambridge for all public and Section 8 housing which we administer.

II. Substantial progress has been made in closing air polluting incinerators at our various developments over the past three years. New compaction systems have been installed at the John F. Kennedy Apartments, Harry S. Truman Apartments, Jackson Gardens, and Woodrow Wilson Court. Both Washington Elms and Jefferson Park will feature alternative means of solid waste disposal once the rehabilitation efforts have been completed. Funding for Newtowne Court and Putnam Gardens, the remaining developments utilizing incinerators, is currently being sought.

III. National competition for a subsequent award of funds under the Federal government's Urban Initiatives Anti-Crime Program began a "security push" aimed at substance abuse in several of our large family developments. In cooperation with the Cambridge Police Department tightened security and better protection of law abiding public housing tenants has resulted.

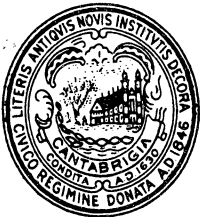
"Spin-offs" from this program include training of CHA personnel in mediation skills, the establishment of the Newtowne Court Women's Center, and a soon to begin Security Program at Jefferson Park.

IV. From the period May 1981 to the present nearly 300 applicants have been put under lease utilizing the Federal Section 8 Program.

Finally, it is important to note that many of these accomplishments occurred during the first two years of the current national Administration which threatened to cut operating funding to public housing authorities by as much as 40%. In response to this threat, the CHA was one of the founding members of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, which has been successful in preserving, through intensive work with the Congress, adequate operating funding for public housing and continuing levels of modernization funding. The Executive Director of the CHA is President of this National Organization.

We, at the CHA, sincerely hope that you and the City Council concur in our feeling that these and other activities undertaken by the CHA reflect quite favorably on the City of Cambridge.

DJW/kml



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

January 31, 1983

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I enclose at this time a communication received from Daniel J. Wuenschel, Executive Director of the Cambridge Housing Authority, relative to recent CHA accomplishments. This is being forwarded to you for informational purposes due to the scheduled hearing this evening.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/b

Re: enclosing for informational purposes a report from Daniel J. Wuenschel, Exec. Dir. of the Cambridge Housing Authority Re: CHA accomplishments.

1/31/1981

Hearing

Continued

To

February 7, 1983

AT 5:30 PM

In City Council,

January 31, 1983

meeting of 2/2/83 cancelled due to inclement weather. Hearing scheduled for Feb. 14, 1983

1/31/1983 at 5:30 PM
Mr. Wuenschel notified 2/5/83mk

Referred to the

Hearing at 6 PM

Then

Placed on File

Mr. Wuenschel notified of continuation of hearing to February 7, 1983, 2/1/83mk