

Dear Margaret Drury,

August 2, 1994
5.

Here is the letter for you to send to the City Council for me, as you suggested you would.

Please also send a copy to Planning Board chairman Dietrich for whom the letter was ^{originally} intended, (it missed their meeting.) should ^{he and} they reconsider date of station # 7.

Thank you. Paula Seegal Thompson

Dear Members of the Cambridge City Council

and Dear Mr. Dietrich and Members Cambridge Planning Board:

Re:

Ultimate disposition -and use- of the currently
vacant building and lot ~~and all land~~ so included at

350 Main Street, Deacon, Desk Streets.

referred to here as

Kendall Square Fire Station
Old Kendall Square Fire Station
Kendall Square Station Seven

or any name which does not remove from historical purpose and
reference the dedication and intent of the Kendall Square property.
You influence permanently the course the City will take about the
fate of the hundred year old building and Kendall Square. ~~the building~~
~~is a part of the city's history.~~

Please preserve the building exterior for its place in
history and its hundred year old beauty. Please designate the use
of the building interior and all its land for the exclusive use
of the fifteen and sixteen year olds (and-or tenth and eleventh
graders) who live in Cambridge - to be decided, developed, and
continued from year to year by them. The entire space of the
station and position and importance, (particularly to Kendall
Square and its future), may reinvest these young people with
dignity, by a place of their own beyond school and family home,
that may enable them to give back their talents.

I suggest Kendall Square Fire Station remain under supervision of Cambridge Chief-of-Fire Department Kevin Fitzgerald for the sole use and benefit of these specific youths who (as far as is possible to do so within City Council guidelines) might plan, manage and run it,

Firemen mentors - present, but not overbearing, available, but not too much so, in caring for a building may too be a resource for the young people whose building and land it would be. Why not the building's final disposition be under the aegis and care of the entity that still occupies it at least symbolically? #one

Youths' decisions (as far as is possible) might include architectural ideas, - design, material, space layout, third floor, and form and conceptual use of the land (that is) integral to the building. Who so manages land and building when completed (with budget City gives) learns fiscal management. Beyond sheltering a pump (or engine) as before, The Old Kendall Square Fire Station could reinvest with dignity, and foster, strengthen, and maintain, the well-being of this group, to the end that they give back their talent somewhere some place in to the future.

Not to be watched, supervised, monitored all the time as with school and family, such youth and his peers on the way to adulthood need a building where they can learn to self-govern by setting limits, maintaining surroundings, and making as far as is possible within the greater community their own decisions. #one

Now all the Youth of England are on fire: Shakespeare

To Mr Dietrich and
Cambridge City Council

Sunday July 31, 1994
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Even the decision of whether they change the use of the building
from year to year, or ritualize ^{its use} ~~the~~ far into the future should be
up to them. A building of stature and importance, beauty and
economic value, (that means an investment for the City) such as
Fire Station Number Seven is a measure of the value at which we
assess these young persons.

For both these reasons and others self-explanatory
that are implicit here I suggest the Cambridge Planning Board
consider this view for the future of Kendall Square in general,
and this building and its land in particular. No obstacles
exist, (legal, social, economic, strategic), that are not
solvable, easily overcome, or use permitted with the resources
in energy, thinking, and motivation that the City has available.

No discrimination is implied here against any other
group. Adults with or without children would benefit. Some youths
will initially plan; others who succeed them may mark the build-
ing for better or for worse by the manner of their use of it.
That this has not been done before need not preclude it from
your plan for Fire Station Seven at Kendall Square. Thankyou for
your time on this.

Sincerely,

Paula Seegal Thompson

58 GARDEN street - B
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

July 31, 1994
August 1

and Camb.
City Council

Sunday

July 31, 1994

and To
Members
Cambridge City Council
To:
Chairman Paul Dietrich
Members Cambridge Planning Board
and --- To whom it may concern

From:

Paula S. Thompson
58 Garden St. --B
Cambridge, 02138

Care of: Margaret Drury

~~Paul Dietrich
City Hall Annex
57 Inman St.
Cambridge 02139~~

Cambridge City Clerk
795 Mass ave
Cambridge 02139

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Consent Communication #5

**A communication was received from Paula Thompson
regarding the Kendall Square Fire Station
Seven.**

In City Council September 12, 1994

Placed on file