

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
JOBS BILL SUMMARY

Introduction

During the month of August, the City Council appropriated \$765,000 in CDBG Jobs Bill funds awarded to the City of Cambridge. That appropriation was based on the City Manager's Statement of Objectives and Proposed Use of Funds. This report outlines those objectives and summarizes the projects selected for funding.

In determining the allocation of funds, the City Manager received input from the Community Development Department and the Department of Human Service Programs. The City also advertised the projected use of funds, solicited additional proposals from the community, and held a public hearing to receive comments on the projected use of Jobs Bill funds prior to making a final decision.

June 29, 1983

CITY MANAGER'S
FINAL STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES
AND PROJECTED USE OF FUNDS - BLOCK GRANT/JOBS BILL FUNDING
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

I. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

The following three Cambridge objectives are those established by Congress under Title I of Public Law 98-3 (97 Stat. 13) (the "Jobs Bill") for community development activities under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

1. Provide productive employment for jobless Americans.
2. Hasten or initiate Federal projects and construction.
3. Provide humanitarian assistance to the indigent.

Three further objectives implied by the Jobs Bill are:

4. Spend Jobs Bill funds as rapidly as practical.
5. Fund programs that will become self-sustaining.
6. Fund programs that will teach specific job skills.

Additionally, insofar as consistent with the above objectives, the City proposes to use the "Jobs Bill" with \$765,000 Block Grant Program funding for projects consistent with the five standard objectives of the Cambridge Block Grant Program. These five standard objectives were published in the Cambridge Chronicle of March 3, 1983, and are now available at the City Manager's Office, City Clerk's Office, and the Community Development Department, as part of the City's CDBG Year #9 "Final Statement of Community Development Objectives and Projected Use of Funds." In abbreviated form, the five objectives are:

OBJECTIVE #1 - Stabilize the City's Population

OBJECTIVE #2 - Enhance the Quality of the City's Physical Environment

OBJECTIVE #3 - Preserve the City's Diversified Employment Base

OBJECTIVE #4 - Improve the Quality of Public Services

OBJECTIVE #5 - Strengthen the City's Fiscal Base

II - PROJECTED USE OF FUNDS

1. PUBLIC FACILITIES

A. Open Space Rehabilitation	-	-	-	-	-	\$75,000
B. Streets and Sidewalks Rehabilitation	-	-	-	-	-	\$80,000
C. Curb-Cuts for Handicapped Persons	-	-	-	-	-	
<u>Sub-Total</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$155,000

2. RENEWAL/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A. East Cambridge Parking Garage	-	-	-	-	-	\$100,000
<u>Sub-Total</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$100,000

3. HOUSING

A. Weatherization Program Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	\$35,000
B. Multi-Family Rehab Support Crew	-	-	-	-	-	\$115,000
<u>Sub-Total</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$150,000

4. HUMAN SERVICES

A. English-As-A-Second-Language (ESL) Program	-	-	-	-	-	\$80,000
B. Family Day Care Recruitment	-	-	-	-	-	\$26,000
C. Child Care Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	\$24,000
D. Neighborhood-Based Park Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	\$62,000
E. Elder-Hire Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	\$23,000
F. Concilio Hispano Program Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	\$5,000
<u>Sub-Total</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$220,000

5. NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITIES

A. Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House Rehab	-	-	-	-	-	\$50,000
B. Boys and Girls Club New Facility	-	-	-	-	-	\$25,000
C. Shelter Inc. Rehab and Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	\$32,000
<u>Sub-Total</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$107,000
<u>PROJECTS TOTAL</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$732,000
<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$33,000
<u>PROGRAM GRAND TOTAL</u>	-	-	-	-	-	\$765,000

JOBS BILL PROJECT
SUMMARY

1. PUBLIC FACILITIES

A. Open Space Rehabilitation \$75,000

Three open space/public facilities projects--the Corporal Burns Playground, Glacken Field and Rindge Shelter renovations--funded through the Jobs Bill Program will begin this fall.

A total of \$50,000 has been allocated to rehab Glacken Field and Corporal Burns Playground. Minor renovations at Corporal Burns will include installation of a new play structure for children ages 10 and under, partial resurfacing of the playground and repairs to the fencing. Glacken Field will receive a new infield. Construction is expected to begin by mid-October. In addition to significantly upgrading the City's recreational facilities, 6 to 8 construction jobs will be funded for the duration of these projects.

Phase II of the Rindge shelter renovation will also begin this October. \$25,000 in jobs bill funding has been allocated to this \$175,000 project scheduled for a February, 1984 completion. This major interior renovation will include installation of new bathrooms, handicap access, flooring and lighting.

B. Streets and Sidewalks Rehabilitation \$80,000

C. Curb Cuts for Handicapped Persons

This \$80,000 allocation will be divided evenly between street and sidewalk and curb cut construction. To more effectively implement these construction activities, the Jobs Bill funding will be added to other Block Grant Funds targeted to these activities, (\$260,000/streets and sidewalks, \$15,000/curb cuts), and bid as a single contract. A total of thirteen streets located in Block Grant neighborhoods will be targeted for improvements. Selection of streets will be based on a survey of existing conditions as well as any outstanding commitments.

Curb cut construction funds will be used to continue handicap curb cuts along Massachusetts Avenue from Norfolk to Dunster Streets. This will include new construction as well as reconstruction of any existing curb cuts which do not comply with the Handicap Access Code. The street and sidewalk contract is scheduled to be bid in mid-October. The 12 month contract will be awarded in November with work commencing immediately.

2. RENEWAL/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A. East Cambridge Parking Garage

\$100,000

Construction of the East Cambridge Parking Garage is a critical link in the successful revitalization of the Riverfront Project Area. This public/private development partnership includes office, hotel and retail projects that have tremendous potential to generate both construction and permanent jobs. The garage is directly linked to the Bulfinch Courthouse renovation and the Wilder-Manley Project. Each of these developments requires the garage in order to meet the parking demands that they will generate. The garage will also service a variety of other users in the area including the Charles Webb renovation, First Street retail and development of the Lechmere site. Without the garage, many of these projects and the jobs they will create would be in jeopardy.

Although garage construction has begun, a very limited budget threatens the future of the project. Basic construction costs have been funded. However, there is no money available for contingencies or cost overruns. This allocation of Jobs Bill funding will enable the City to fund necessary related costs which will ensure the success of the garage project.

3. HOUSING

A. Weatherization Program Expansion \$ 35,000

For the past several years, the City has sponsored energy programs providing services from low-cost/no-cost improvements to complete weatherization. In many cases, the income eligibility guidelines governing these programs have been so restrictive that many needy individuals were unable to receive assistance. Since CDBG income guidelines are higher than state energy program guidelines, the Jobs Bill funding will enable a wider range of income groups to receive the services provided by Cambridge's energy programs.

The Cambridge Weatherization Program will receive \$20,000 to weatherize twenty residential units throughout the City. This program provides weatherization assistance based on the energy needs of a particular household. This may range from weatherstripping and caulking to oil burner replacement and installation of storm windows or insulation.

The Cambridge Action to Save Heat (C.A.\$.H.) Program will use its allocation to employ individuals in the implementation of the program. Five full-time and one part-time position will be created. These positions include outreach and home installation workers and office support staff. This additional staff will enable the program to operate more effectively during the fall months when people are preparing for winter. At the same time, the individuals hired will acquire marketable weatherization, carpentry and office skills.

B. Multi-Family Rehab Support Crew \$115,000

To assist in the implementation of the City's multi-family rehab projects, including the Rental Rehab Demonstration Project and NAHS projects, Jobs Bill funding will be used to establish a new multi-family rehab support crew. This crew, operated through Just-A-Start, will consist of approximately seven trainees and one supervisory position. Unemployed youth will be hired and trained in deleading, weatherization and other related rehab work. This program will enable the City to more effectively package its multi-family rehab projects while teaching valuable skills to the program participants. Just-A-Start hopes to train a total of fourteen youth in a twelve month period.

4. HUMAN SERVICES

Jobs Bill funds were allocated to six human service projects. Each project was designed to address one of the common barriers to employment among Cambridge residents: lack of English language skills, inadequate day care, poor work history, age and/or ethnicity. In addition, the goals of each project can be accomplished within the one year only limit of the Jobs Bill legislation, with the net effect of increasing the capacity of the local human service system.

A. English as a Second Language \$80,000

The Community Learning Center will provide a program for non-native English speaking Cambridge residents who wish to enter job training programs but lack the English skills necessary to do so successfully.

The first component will target the individuals who have acquired elementary English skills but who require intensive follow-up in reading, writing, and math skills to complete preparation for entry into job training programs. The base curriculum will be specifically oriented toward available training options in three occupational clusters: clerical, health, and electro-mechanical. One hundred students will participate in this phase of the project. Entry into skills training programs will then be coordinated through Employment Training REsources, Inc.

A second component will address the needs of those whose English skills are more limited. The intent of this phase is to increase access to ESL instruction by adding significantly to the available opportunities for instruction and by placing satellite classes in seven different locations around the city. This component will serve approximately 150 students.

B. Family Day Care Recruitment and Training \$26,000

One of the greatest demands for child care services is in the area of infant/toddler care. The Child Care Resource Center will administer this project which will recruit and train fifteen to twenty new providers of family day care; these additional homes will represent a 30% increase over current capacity. Training will emphasize both the necessary steps in establishing a family day care business (licensing, start-up costs, income potential, tax implications, insurance, and the like) and the activities involved in providing quality care in a family day care setting. If the state agency responsible for licensing has established a multi-

lingual capacity, some of the recruitment will be targeted to non-English speaking providers.

This project has the dual purpose of providing increased infant/toddler care and creating employment for a new set of providers. The training package will also be available for dissemination at the end of the project year.

C. Child Care Expansion \$24,000

Though after school child care programs have been expanding steadily, children with special behavior problems are still extremely difficult to place. This project will include the establishment of mechanisms for the recruitment of additional staffing resources (students, volunteers, etc.), provision of specialized training in behavior management, and the development of resources for on-site consultation around specific children in specific programs. In each instance, the emphasis is on working with existing agencies and staff whose ongoing mandate incorporates such services, but which have not as yet been able to develop and institutionalize these activities. Each agency participating and receiving Jobs Bill support has committed to the maintenance of services at the termination of the project.

D. Neighborhood Based Park Maintenance \$52,000

This project will provide opportunities for neighborhood residents to care for eight to ten of the smaller parks around the city. Maintenance at each site will be done in teams of two, with each individual working an average of ten hours per week. Responsibilities will include clean-up, minor repairs to equipment, and such chores as pruning and clipping. Those sites selected will include the facilities being rehabed through Jobs Bill funds.

This project will provide employment opportunities to two types of individuals in the community: older individuals seeking ways to supplement their incomes and individuals requiring flexible part-time employment to provide some income while they participate in employment training programs.

E. Elder Hire Program \$23,000

The Elder Hire program responds to the needs of older workers (55+) who require employment to supplement their current incomes. The program offers job counseling, job

seeking skills, and retraining programs. Jobs Bill funding will permit the expansion of the Director's hours from part-time to full time and the addition of one part-time staff person responsible for job development.

The increased capacity of the program will also improve the likelihood of securing some part of the resources set aside state-wide under JETPA legislation for responding to the needs of older workers.

F. Concilio Hispano Program Expansion \$5000

These funds will partially support a full time staff person at Concilio who will maintain responsibility for job development and the marketing of Hispanic employees with area businesses. Activities will include dealing with employer apprehensions concerning hiring Hispanic employees; assisting in the identification, recruitment, and pre-screening of new Hispanic candidates for positions; and providing follow-up support to employers and employees. Additional technical assistance will be offered to participating businesses to ensure they receive applicable tax benefits. Jobs Bill support will allow the placement of at least 25 additional Hispanic employees.

G. Shelter, Inc. Rehab and Expansion \$30,000

The language of the Jobs Bill speaks specifically to the facility needs of emergency shelter programs. Shelter, Inc. has already secured a commitment from the Department of Public Welfare and a matching one from the United Way to operate a new 20-30 bed facility in the Cambridge area. Capital funds must still be raised.

The United Way has committed an additional \$30,000 for acquisition of property. The intent of this allocation is to match that commitment with funds specifically earmarked for rehabilitation.

5. NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITIES

- A. Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House Rehab \$50,000

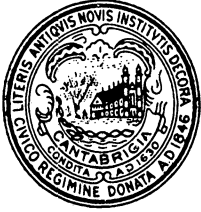
This project will provide funding to develop and implement a renovation plan for the basement of the Margaret Fuller House. The space will be used by the Thorndike Street Day Care Center, a private day care facility serving low to moderate income families. The Day Care Center is currently threatened with displacement resulting in an urgent need for the Margaret Fuller House facilities. Development of the renovation plan began in August. Construction is scheduled to begin in October and will be completed by year's end.

- B. Boys and Girls Club New Facility \$25,000

The Boys and Girls Club is currently working with the City of Cambridge to acquire and renovate a new facility for the Club's programs. \$25,000 of Jobs Bill funding has been targeted as a planning grant to achieve this objective. The Club will employ five consultants to assist them in the acquisition of a property and to develop space and programmatic plans for the proposed facility. The consultant contracts will be in effect through June 30, 1984. The cost of acquisition and renovation will be generated from other public and private sources.

- C. Shelter Inc. Rehab and Expansion \$32,000

See Department of Human Services Report.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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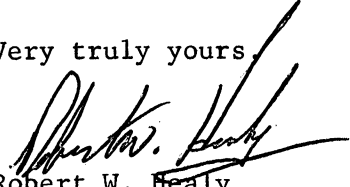
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

November 7, 1983

To the Honorable, the City Council:

As per City Council request for additional information relative to the Jobs Bill appropriation, enclosed is a report with further information.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mbf
Enc.

Agenda Item Number One

276

Re: enclosing a report transmitting further information on the Jobs Bill appropriation.

In City Council,

November 7, 1983

11/7/83

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