



City of Cambridge

5.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 10, 1978

COUNCILLOR WYLIE

WHEREAS: The Harvard/Radcliffe plan to build a gymnasium on Observatory Hill has created a major neighborhood-university-city confrontation which ought to be resolved, and

WHEREAS: All concerned should have been working to resolve this issue for the last four years, since the site was identified for athletic development on Plan P-2, "Potential Sites for Future Development" in the Interim Report--June 1974, entitled "A Long-range Plan for Harvard University and Radcliffe College in Cambridge and Allston," a publication of the Harvard University Planning Office, and

WHEREAS: One can predict from Plan P-2 a series of university-neighborhood confrontations, for instance, over proposals for a 350 car garage on Madison Street, or academic buildings at Bond and Concord, and construction on the Sachs Estate, the Sacramento playground, the sites of the Radcliffe President's residence and of the houses across Brattle Street from the Loeb Drama Center, Treeland and the adjacent parcel (another garage) on Grant Street, and at Sumner Road and Kirkland, and on Church Street (still another garage), and at Hammond and Oxford (including a garage), and

WHEREAS: An institution such as Harvard/Radcliffe has an undoubted responsibility to plan for its present and future needs, and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has an undoubted obligation to use all of its proper governmental powers to preserve and improve for all of its citizens the advantages of living in the city and to prevent, reduce or compensate for disadvantages created by the impact of large-scale development plans, now therefore be it

RESOLVED:

That the City Council hereby offers to Harvard/Radcliffe an opportunity during the next 90 days to plan jointly, respecting university building and development plans, with the City's Planning Department, the results of such planning to be submitted for neighborhood review and comment during the next succeeding 90-day period and, hopefully, reduced to binding written agreement in the course of a third 90-day period, such offer by the City Council to be conditional upon Harvard/Radcliffe's written agreement to suspend new construction for nine months, and be it further

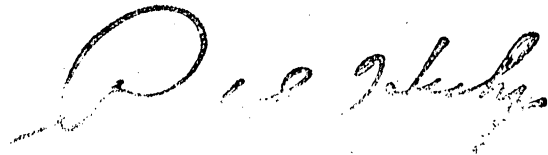
RESOLVED:

That it is the City Council's hope to secure on behalf of the citizens of Cambridge as the result of this process, some amount of permanently deeded open space rights, scenic easements and landscaping, a reduction in the impact of institutional development on neighborhoods, and an extension beyond 1980 of the residential property acquisition limit of Harvard/Radcliffe, and that it is the City Council's hope to secure on behalf of Harvard/Radcliffe a predictable schedule for the carrying out of institutional development which will be relatively free of such city imposed impediments as zoning changes and development moratoria.

In City Council April 10, 1978
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.
Attest: Paul E. Healy, City Clerk

A true copy,

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul E. Healy", is written over the printed name of the City Clerk.

Order #5

C. Wylie re: Harvard/Radcliffe plan to
build a gymnasium on Observatory Hill. S

S 155

S-155

In City Council,
April 10, 1978