



City of Cambridge

Consent Communication #66

IN CITY COUNCIL

August 4, 1997

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to send a follow up letter to Representative Joseph Kennedy on behalf of the 324 and 340 Franklin Street Tenants' Association.

In City Council August 4, 1997.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Margaret Drury". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the printed name and title.



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

(617) 349-4260

FAX (617) 349-4307

tty/TDD (617) 492-0235

D. MARGARET DRURY
CITY CLERK

DONNA P. LOPEZ
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

August 7, 1997

The Honorable Joseph Kennedy
2242 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2107

Dear Representative Kennedy:

The Cambridge City Council has asked that I write to you to request your assistance for the 324 and 340 Franklin Street Tenants Association, whose members are seeking to obtain documents from the FDIC regarding the acquisition of their building. A freedom of information request, **FDIC Log Number 97-0485**, was made to the FDIC by tenant Gary Mello, and the tenants have reported that they have not yet received the requested information. The City Council hopes that you will be able to help expedite this process.

Copies of the City Council Order previously adopted on April 28, 1997, the most recent letter from the tenants to the City Council and the Order adopted on August 4, 1997 requesting this office forward a follow up letter to you are attached.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Donna P. Lopez
Deputy City Clerk

DPL/hs

Encs. (2)

cc: Tenants Association
Roger Herzog, Community Development Dept.



RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
97 JUL 31 PM 4:10
CAMBRIDGE MA.

City of Cambridge

42.

Amended Order

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 28, 1997

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ensure that the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust makes every effort, to acquiring the properties at 324 and 340 Franklin Street to preserve those units as affordable and to protect the low and moderate income tenants now living there who are threatened with massive rent increases which will surely mean the loss of their housing; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to notify Bilmark of the strong interest of the City Council in maintaining affordable rents at this property; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to send a letter to Representative Joseph Kennedy requesting his assistance to the tenants to expedite freedom of information request to the FDIC (log #97-0048) for disclosure and release of information regarding the purchase price and mortgage of this property.

In City Council April 28, 1997

Adopted as amended by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

D. Margaret Drury

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Susan Lindsay Mello
324 Franklin St. Apt 2
Cambridge, MA 02139
July 31, 1997

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

97 JUL 31 PM 4:10
Dear Cambridge City Councilors:

I am writing to you on behalf of the 324 and 340 Franklin Street Tenants' Association. As you may recall, several months ago we asked that the City Council contact Congressman Joe Kennedy to request his assistance in expediting the release of the FDIC documents pertaining to our buildings since our requests were being ignored. Apparently the Council and Congressman Kennedy's influence made all the difference, because within a few weeks of your request we received some of the requested documents. It was those documents that revealed the sweetheart deal that Billmark LLC got from the FDIC to pay \$185,000 for three Cambridge properties (2 apartment buildings and a condo). They immediately sold the condo for \$119,000, leaving them with a balance of \$66,000 for 2 buildings containing 13 units.

Because we did not receive all the information we requested, in early June we filed another Freedom of Information Act request (#97-0485) to obtain additional documents pertaining to the acquisition of the Franklin Street properties by Billmark LLC. To no one's great surprise, we have been met once again with considerable reluctance and red tape in processing our FDIC request. On our own we contacted Congressman Kennedy's local office, but were unable to obtain their compliance. Consequently, we are requesting that the City Council once again on our behalf use its influence to obtain Congressman Kennedy's help in releasing the requested documents.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and for your ongoing support of our efforts to secure affordable housing in Cambridge for low and moderate income residents.

Sincerely,

Susan Lindsay Mello
Susan Lindsay Mello

P.S. I thought you also might be interested to learn that Billmark recently turned down CASCAP's offer to purchase 324 Franklin Street through the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Billmark is now asking \$350,000 for 340 Franklin and the low \$400's for 324 Franklin. That's three quarters of a million dollars for properties that they apparently paid \$66,000 for! Nice work if you can get it...

Enc: Previous CCC Order

Previous letter to Congressman Kennedy



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August 4, 1997

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DONNA P. LOPEZ
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

August 7, 1997

The Honorable Joseph Kennedy
2242 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2107

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D. Margaret Drury

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Susan Lindsay Mello
324 Franklin St. Apt 2
Cambridge, MA 02139
July 31, 1997

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D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Com # 66

KT to City Clerk Re and hereby is request
Send a follow up letter to Joe
Kennedy re Franklin Street
Property

vv/9



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Amended Order

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D. MARGARET DRURY
CITY CLERK

DONNA P. LOPEZ
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

April 30, 1997

The Honorable Joseph Kennedy
2242 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2107

Dear Representative Kennedy:

97-0485

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Copies of the City Council Order and the tenants' letter to the City Council are attached, along with a copy of my letter to the property owner, Bilmark, LLC.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

D. Margaret Drury
D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

cc: Tenants Association
Roger Herzog, Community Development Department

DMD:gwj

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66

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Enc: Previous CCC Order
Previous letter to Congressman Kennedy

Consent Communications #66 : 5-486

Communication was received from Susan
Lindsay Mello, transmitting an update
on 324 and 340 Franklin Street property.

*for initial letter
see 1997 Sundries#
233*

In City Council August 4, 1997

PLACED ON FILE