

NORTH CAMBRIDGE STABILIZATION COMMITTEE

1998 NOV -2 P 12:24
Cambridge Council
Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

6 Saint Gerard Terrace
Cambridge, MA 02140
29 October, 1998

Re: Rehab Project at Fitzgerald School and Associated Properties

Dear Councilors:

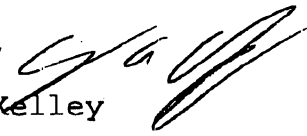
On behalf of the North Cambridge Stabilization Committee (NCSC), I raise the following issues concerning the rehabilitation project set to start at the Fitzgerald School in the Summer of 1999:

- It is not clear how this project will impact the Gately Shelter, the O'Neil library, Rindge Field or the various totlots and playgrounds in the area. Our concern is that these vital neighborhood resources must remain as available as possible during the rehab project. At this point, there is much confusion about how the project will impact these resources, whether they will be closed and, if so, for how long, etc. The time to address this issue is now, before the project starts. It would be awful to find out in May, for example, that the project will require the sewerage to be off to the entire site for a year starting in June, with the resultant loss of the neighborhood resources for a year.
- It would be a shame for the City to miss an opportunity to provide important renovations to the Gately or the library merely because the state is not willing to fund such renovations. It would probably be wise for the City to allocate additional funding to extensively renovate these facilities as part of the overall project. Given that construction workers will already be mobilized on site, it may well be cost effective to do more than redo the bathrooms, doors and windows at the Gately and the library. If these facilities are to be shut for the modest renovations we understand are currently planned for them, it would seem to be a small step to ensure they are upgraded to a state-of-the-art condition. Given our position supporting our East Cambridge neighbors at the ComEnergy site, we understand the money for such additional renovations may be hard to come by. Nonetheless, we leave it to your wisdom to discover the necessary funds to do this job right the first time.
- We request that the City immediately set up an effective, well publicized and regularly held public forum regarding renovations at the Fitzgerald School and other nearby public facilities.

As always, I may be contacted at 354-8353 or VoteCraig@att.net if you have any questions about this or any other North Cambridge issue.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Kelley 

Consent Communication #4

5719

A communication was received from
Craig A. Kelley, North Cambridge
Stabilization Committee, transmitting
a letter regarding the rehab project at
the Fitzgerald School and Associated
Properties.

City Clerk's Office

In City Council November 9, 1998

Placed on File.