



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

MICHAEL J. LOMBARDI
REPRESENTATIVE
ASST. MAJORITY LEADER
29TH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
114 FIFTH STREET
EAST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02141

January 11, 1982

Committees on
Rules
Government Regulations
Chairman
Legislative Research Council
Vice Chairman
Committee on Counties
TEL. 722-2060

Councilor Alfred Vellucci, Presiding Officer
Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA. 02141

Dear Councilor Vellucci:

I am writing to bring to the City Council's attention, the latest proposal being considered for the use of Jail facilities in the Superior Courthouse located in East Cambridge. The Governor has lent his support to Sheriff Henneberry's plan to utilize the jail facility for "short termers" currently incarcerated at Billerica by the County. This plan has been floated as a result of the Governor's inability to have the State Legislature appropriate funds for usage by the Department of Correction; an inability caused by the refusal of the Cambridge Legislature Delegation to accede to the executive's wishes.

The monies necessary to operate said facility would have to be appropriated from real estate tax payers within Middlesex County. The County Advisory Board will be the determining factor as to whether said operating monies (about 2.5 million a year) would be appropriated.

The Cambridge City Council, as a body, should request the City Manager to cast his vote as a member of the County Advisory Board against this appropriation. The City Manager should also be requested by the City Council to use whatever political persuasions available to him to help stop the opening of the jail in East Cambridge.

Not only would this be placing an additional financial burden on our already laden taxpayers, but this would also blatantly disregard the safety of the employees of the building and the area residents. People should not forget the fact that Cambridge is the second most densely populated city in the entire country.

Just recently we read about a individual on trial for rape at the Superior Court in Cambridge who just walked out of the court room, minutes before he was to be sentenced to prison. Safety of the PUBLIC should be first on our minds and not the comfort of those who commit crimes.

A concerned effort by all of us must be made to stop this facility from opening,

cc: All Camb City Councilors
City Manager

Respectfully yours,

MICHAEL J. LOMBARDI

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S-27

Comm. from Rep. Michael J. Lombardi Re:
the latest proposal being considered for use
of the jail facilities in the Superior Court-
house in East Cambridge.

*Copy sent to the City Manager
1/20/82 mbr*

In City Council,

January 18, 1982

1/18/1982

Communication II

- Placed

on

File -

*Referenced to City
Manager for Action*