

Dear Councillor:

This letter accompanies a petition of more than 3000 names, the vast majority of them Cambridge residents who in the past three weeks have voiced strong opposition to a 19-story Holiday Inn on Mt. Auburn Street. The petition reads as follows:

WE URGE THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGEMENT
TO STOP THE OPENING WEDGE OF UNCONTROLLED DEVELOPMENT
OF HARVARD SQUARE AREA BY HOLIDAY INN INC.

WE URGE HOLIDAY INNS INC. TO RECONCILE THEIR PLAN
WITH THOSE OF THE CITY AND ADJACENT COMMUNITY.

WE SUPPORT COORDINATED PLANNING FOR HARVARD SQUARE AREA
WHICH WOULD PRESERVE ITS SPECIAL CHARACTER AND HUMAN
SCALE.

The concern of these citizens can also be measures by the
extensive organizational opposition to this design by:

Harvard Square Businessmens Assoc.	Chamber of Commerce
Cambridge Conservation Commision	Cambridge Civic. Assoc.
Sierra Club, Gr. Boston Group	Boston Industrial Mission
Department of Visual and Environ-	Camb. Center for Adult Educ.
mental Studies, Harvard U.	Neighborhood Ten Assoc.
Cambridge Historical Commission	Harvard Square Task Force
Planning for People Committee	Harvard Ecology Club

More people are aware now than ever before of the need for coordinated planning, not only for Harvard Square, but for the whole city of Cambridge. It can only be termed gross mismanagement to use taxpayers' money to employ a planning department and hire consultants while granting building permits which so irrevocably sabotage their efforts. Only a serious review of the methods and procedures now employed to grant permits will rectify this destructive situation during this critical planning period.

We ask that the city management and the Council act to insure the re-design of the Holiday Inn. Approval of a pedestrian circulation plan and parking plan is a necessary part of the redesign process.

The entire city is victim of the chaos created by irresponsible development and commercial exploitation of Harvard Square. Cambridge can reap a greater return of tax dollars in the future by insisting now on quality development. We urge, therefore, that the supports and implements the plan that allows for natural growth within a

framework that builds rather than destroys its special character.

It is the obligation of city management to be responsive to the threat to the city's character. Neglect of such a duty will erode public confidence. The overwhelming response to a few hours of petitioning is an indication of growing public awareness of your responsibility in this important area.

Sincerely yours,

Human Scale, and Ad Hoc Committee for
Responsible Development in Cambridge
5 Walnut Ave Cambridge 02140

Ronald Lee Fleming
Gail Mazur
Michael Mazur
Co-directors

256
Petition from Ronald Fleming and
others expressing opposition to
Holiday Inn on Mt. Auburn St.

Placed on file

Nov. 13, 1972