



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

March 31, 1997

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #8 regarding Section 404 mitigation grants, please be advised of the following:

A disaster declaration by the President, at the request of the Governor, enables the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other agencies to provide assistance to state and local governments, pursuant to the Stafford Act. Because of the severe flood damage in Massachusetts, Section 404 of the Stafford Act provides for grants to government agencies for efforts to mitigate damage from future problems of the same nature. Section 404 funds *cannot be used* to fund projects where funding is available under other Federal funding sources (e.g., sewer separation and other sewer work).

The total funds available for mitigation projects is 10% of the total spent on federal public and individual assistance provided under the disaster declaration. As the expected cost of flood relief is between \$40 - \$50 million, the amount available in the Section 404 mitigation funding statewide would likely be between \$4 and \$5 million. The Commonwealth announced its application process on November 8, 1996 with a deadline of December 13th.

After examining potential projects with other City departments and the general eligibility of these projects by other Federal sources, and considering the likelihood of funding given the limited funds available statewide, the City did not apply for funding under this program.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Consent Agenda #3

5-189

Relative to Awaiting Report Item
Number Eight, regarding Section 404
mitigation grants for the Russell Field
area along Clifton and Harvey Street;
Bellis Circle area and the New Street
area.

In City Council March 31, 1997

Placed on file