



# City of Cambridge

19.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
February 7, 1994

COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

**WHEREAS:** Community councils, neighborhood associations, area coalitions, and stabilization committees are a vital and essential component of citizen participation in the life and affairs of the City of Cambridge; and

**WHEREAS:** Some of these organizations convene on a regular basis with broad participation and the support of various city agencies; and

**WHEREAS:** Others of these associations struggle for support and publicity and sometimes even lack a place to meet; and

**WHEREAS:** Some areas of the City are entirely unrepresented by a community council or neighborhood organization; and

**WHEREAS:** Cambridge with its system of election of at-large candidates under a Proportional Representation form of voting, has no other vehicle for organized neighborhood by neighborhood representation in civic affairs.

**WHEREAS:** Neighborhood Councils can provide an opportunity for leadership and involvement for those Cambridge residents who are not citizens of the United States and are thus unable to vote in municipal elections; now therefore be it

**ORDERED:** That to better assess this situation and its possible inequities, in order to assess the value and usefulness of such organizations, and in order to determine if there is a need and benefit in committing city staff or fiscal resources to fostering neighborhood councils; and be it further

**ORDERED:** That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the staff of the Community Development Department to compile a survey of the various community organizations which regularly convene in this city and such survey shall be brief in length but shall include for each group the following: a brief history of the organization, source(s) of funding (private, municipal, state or federal), other types of support from city agencies (Community Development, Community Schools through Human Services), place of meetings, frequency of meetings, size of membership, by-laws if any, number of officers and how elected, typical issues addressed, and how information is distributed (newsletters, mailings).

In City Council February 7, 1994.  
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.  
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

19

For February 7 Council Meeting

Whereas: Community Councils, Neighborhood Associations, Area Coalitions, and Stabilization Committees are a vital and essential component of citizen participation in the life and affairs of the City of Cambridge.

Whereas: Some of these organizations convene on a regular basis with broad participation and the support of various city agencies and

Whereas: Others of these associations struggle for support and publicity and sometimes even a place to meet and

*lack*

Whereas: Some areas of the city are entirely unrepresented by a community council or neighborhood organization.

Whereas: Cambridge with its system of election of at-large candidates under a Proportional Representation form of voting, has no other vehicle for organized neighborhood by neighborhood representation in civic affairs.

Whereas: Neighborhood Councils can provide an opportunity for leadership and involvement for those Cambridge residents who are not citizens of the United States and are thus unable to vote in municipal elections

Therefore: In order to better assess this situation and its possible inequities, in order to assess the value and usefulness of such organizations, and in order to determine if there is a need and benefit in committing city staff or fiscal resources to fostering Neighborhood Councils

Be it Ordered: That the <sup>city</sup> Manager ~~direct~~ <sup>separately is requested to confer with</sup> the staff of the Community Development Department to compile a survey of the various community organizations which regularly convene in this city. <sup>and</sup> Such survey shall be brief in length but shall include for each group the following: A brief History of the organization, source(s) of funding (private, municipal, state or federal), other types of support from city agencies (Community Development, Community Schools through Human Services), place of meetings, frequency of meetings, size of membership, By-laws if any, number of officers and how elected, typical issues addressed, and how information is distributed (newletters, mailings).



# City of Cambridge

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IN CITY COUNCIL

February 7, 1994

## COUNCILLOR BORN

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**WHEREAS:** Some of these organizations convene on a regular basis with broad participation and the support of various city agencies; and

**WHEREAS:** Others of these associations struggle for support and publicity and sometimes even lack a place to meet; and

**WHEREAS:** Some areas of the City are entirely unrepresented by a community council or neighborhood organization; and

**WHEREAS:** Cambridge with its system of election of at-large candidates under a Proportional Representation form of voting, has no other vehicle for organized neighborhood by neighborhood representation in civic affairs.

**WHEREAS:** Neighborhood Councils can provide an opportunity for leadership and involvement for those Cambridge residents who are not citizens of the United States and are thus unable to vote in municipal elections; now therefore be it

**ORDERED:** That to better assess this situation and its possible inequities, in order to assess the value and usefulness of such organizations, and in order to determine if there is a need and benefit in committing city staff or fiscal resources to fostering neighborhood councils; and be it further

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*Duehay, Toomey, Triantafillon*

Consent Order #19

*CM-34*

Councillor Born re: Citizen  
participation in the life and affairs  
of the City of Cambridge.

*Order Adopted*

In City Council,

February 7, 1994