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CAMBRIDGE MA.

348 Franklin Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
January 24, 1993

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL:

I very strongly encourage the City Council to ask the City Manager:

1. to cease his plans for expansion of the Cambridge Hospital on its present site; and
2. to replace those plans with short range plans for expansion on the CASPAR/Simplex site combined with:
3. a taking of sufficient land in the CASPAR/Simplex area to permit long term relocation of the entire facility to the CASPAR site and nearby properties.

The present site is inappropriate for expansion of Cambridge Hospital because:

1. The site is simply too small -- the hospital's programs, now and in the future should not be limited because the hospital became too large for the site with the 60's expansion.
2. The hospital has a bad impact on the adjoining residential neighborhood WITHOUT EXPANSION.
3. The site has an extremely bad private transportation problem and the situation is poor with regard to public transportation.
4. Furthermore, the Cambridge Street neighborhood has grossly suffered from irresponsible city development with the needless destruction of the best park in Mid-Cambridge and the irresponsible hanging of a building over the sidewalk, both in the CRLS project. Too much is enough.

I propose that

1. the city take by eminent domain a far more appropriate site, the CASPAR site on Albany St. in the Simplex area and sufficient neighboring properties for future expansion, and
2. that the city use part of the tens of millions of dollars in the hospital account for this purpose. The city has already paid for a 40 year lease of part of this site. This payment would reduce the cost of any taking.

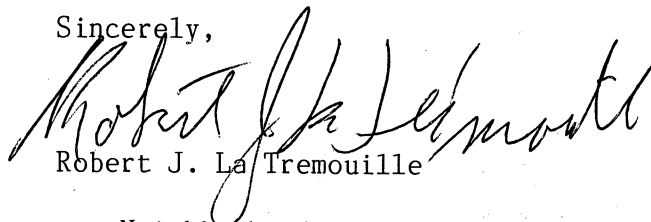
For the following reasons, this site is ideal:

1. This site is presently a wasteland, made so by the greed of one speculator. It will be more than a generation, more likely two, before the damage done by the speculator in Cambridgeport is ended.

2. Central Square would very strongly benefit.
3. The site can be taken in as large a scale as desired and appropriate for long term expansion and parking without detriment to existing or neighboring uses.
4. The site has excellent highway transportation.
5. The site has excellent bus transportation.
6. The site is near to and can have direct access to a future subway line, the "circumferential route", based on Orange Line technology. This line is legally guaranteed as part of settlement of the Central Artery suit. Some details:
 - a. The line is scheduled to have a station under the railway crossing on Mass. Ave. between Vassar and Albany Streets.
 - b. The line will have stops in East Cambridge, at B.U. and the Harvard Medical Area.
 - c. The line will directly connect with
 - (1) the Red Line at Kendall (one stop away)
 - (2) the Green Line at Lechmere, at B.U. on the Boston College line, at a surface stop on the Riverside Line
 - (3) the Orange line at Community College and at Ruggles, and
 - (4) Commuter Rail at Ruggles.
7. The site is adequately away from residential neighborhoods.
8. The present CASPAR facility on Albany St. would fit ideally in with a first stage relocation of psychiatric and substance abuse facilities. Perhaps, however, the staff believes that other uses would make more sense on this, initially separate, campus. In particular, outpatient facilities would clearly benefit from the greater public access.
9. In the extreme long run, the present site on Cambridge St. would make excellent sense as a large nursing home on the scale of Marion Manor in South Boston or the Jewish Home in West Roxbury/Roslindale.

The CASPAR/Simplex site is a win/win situation for Cambridge Hospital expansion.

Sincerely,



Robert J. La Tremouille

p.s. I am a member of the Save our Neighborhood organization. The statements presented above are my personal opinion.

Consent Communication #7

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Communication was received from Robert
LaTremibulle regarding the expansion
of the Cambridge Hospital.

In City Council January 31, 1994

Placed on file.