

CAMPAIGN TO SAVE 2000 CAMBRIDGE HOMES

Campaña para Salvar 2000 Hogares

Kanpay pou Sove 2000 Kay

11 Inman St. Cambridge MA 02139 (617) 868-2900

April 2, 1998

Mayor Duehay
Vice Mayor Galluccio
Cambridge City Councilors

Dear Councilors:

We agree in with the conclusions the Community Development Department has drawn from its study about the housing crisis in our City. Poor and working class people are being forced out. Rent increases are very large. We have also noted methodological problems with the study that undoubtedly seriously underestimates the dimension of the problem. We explained some of these questions at the Housing Committee meeting on April 1.

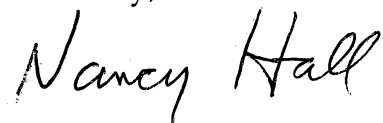
We have also prepared a first draft of a report on the households we have worked with over the past 18 months. It shows landlords seeking an average increase of almost 80% for mostly protected status tenants!

Many families and households have been driven out of the City because of this crisis. Many who have organized with the Campaign have managed to stay. We continue to bring before you examples of families fighting evictions or large increases and trying to hold onto their homes. Tenants who organize will continue to have success in defending their homes. We hope you will continue to support these families, directly and through aggressive public policy.

As you know, even though the City's report looked at the results of the end of rent control, the housing crisis does not just affect ex-rent control tenants. Many low and moderate income people in HUD-assisted buildings are also facing crisis. Walden Park and Huron Towers have been deregulated. 929 House has announced plans to do the same. We need the Cambridge home rule petition for HUD-assisted buildings.

As the Council has stated, the issue of affordable housing is the top priority. A broad coalition exists to support your efforts in this area.

Sincerely,



Nancy Hall
for the Campaign

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Consent Communication #9

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A communication was received
from Nancy Hall, Campaign to
Save 2000 Cambridge Homes,
transmitting concern regarding
the housing crisis in the City
of Cambridge.

In City Council April 6, 1998

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