



City of Cambridge

55.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 27, 1995

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR MYERS
MAYOR REEVES
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Cambridge cherishes diversity among its residents and seeks to preserve economic diversity by providing adequate affordable housing; and

WHEREAS: Without subsidized housing, many residents of Cambridge could not continue to live in the city; and

WHEREAS: The federal government is considering eliminating all project based affordable housing assistance for project-based Sec. 8's and public housing by transferring this to a voucher program; and

WHEREAS: The federal government is considering placing all affordable housing into a block grant, to be disbursed by the states; and

WHEREAS: This plan does not guarantee vouchers to all current public housing tenants, vouchers are 20% more expensive than public housing, overall funding for affordable housing will more likely be cut in voucher and block grant form, and most vulnerable residents (disabled elderly) will have the hardest time using vouchers; and

WHEREAS: If this plan is implemented, low and moderate income Cambridge residents in over 3,000 units of public housing and project based Sec. 8's would be displaced, with many facing the threat of homelessness; and

WHEREAS: This change would severely disrupt every Cambridge neighborhood; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council urges the President and the Secretary of HUD to withdraw the proposals for "voucherizing" public housing and project based Sec. 8's, retaining project based operating subsidies and Sec. 8's retaining affordable housing funds outside the block grants, and initiating broad discussions with affected communities and residents before proposing other such sweeping changes; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this City Council urges the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation to lobby for the same goal; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to prepare suitably engrossed copies of this resolution to be sent to the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation.

In City Council February 27, 1995
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

Entire membership

R-180

Non Consent Order #55

Councillor Duehay and entire membership re:
Federal proposals to replace public housing
with vouchers.

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In City Council February 27, 1995

Order adopted.