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Alianza de Inquilinos de Cambridge
Alliance of Cambridge Tenants
Alyans de Lokatè yo de Cambridge

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21 February, 2013

To the Honorable Members of the Cambridge City Council:

We are writing to you on behalf of the Board of the Alliance of Cambridge Tenants (ACT), the duly recognized city-wide tenants' organization representing public housing and voucher households, regarding the appointment of a tenant representative on the Cambridge Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners.

On October 9, 2012, we informed you that the City Manager had invited each CHA public housing tenant council to submit a list of two to five candidates to fill the seat of Jacqueline Adams, whose term expired on October 1. Further, we pointed out that this is one of the very few appointments over which the City Council could exercise discretion under the Plan E Charter; and that a total of eight candidates had been nominated by a tenant council and/or ACT. It is our understanding that Ms. Adams's name was not submitted by any tenant council or by the city-wide tenants' organization ACT as would be required by state statute in order for the City Manager to re-appoint her tenant commissioner.

The City Manager subsequently interviewed four of the candidates, assuring them that he would make his choice known to the City Council by the second week in December. More than three months have now passed since the interviews. Five months have passed since Ms. Adams term ended and she is still sitting as the tenant commissioner.

We respectfully request that the City Council ask the City Manager to explain the reasons for the delay, and when he expects to make a recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

Cheryl-Ann Pizza-Zeoli
Cheryl-Ann Pizza-Zeoli, ACT Voucher Co-Chair

Victoria Bergland, ACT Public Housing Co-Chair

Victoria Bergland VB

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