

January 5, 2014

Good evening, Mayor Maher and members of the City Council:

My name is Jonathan King, of 40 Essex Street, Cambridge, MA 02139.

As City Councilors you are all sharply aware of the decline in federal support for essential human needs in our communities - **public housing, education, transit, environmental and healthcare programs.**

Cambridge with its senior housing, public housing, and section 8 subsidies has been hit particularly hard by the reduction in federal housing programs.

^{Source}
~~An~~ aspect of this is due to the continued draining of our tax dollars into enormously costly nuclear weapons programs that only decrease our security, while

undermining our social and economic fabric.

Decades after the fall of the Berlin wall, the US still maintains thousands of active nuclear warheads, **with hundreds of missiles on hair trigger alert**, as does Russia. Additional missiles are on alert in India, Pakistan, Israel, France, Britain and China. The unintentional - or intentional - launching of any of these weapons would kill tens of millions of civilians in their targeted cities, and risk tens of millions of US casualties from the response.

Rather than following the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty - calling for the nuclear states to initiate full nuclear disarmament - the US is embarking on a modernization program to upgrade existing warheads and build new submarines, bombers and

delivery systems, **estimated to cost \$1 trillion of taxpayers dollars over the next 30 years, about \$10,000 per household.**

This April delegations from around the world will converge on the United Nations in New York City for the five year review conference of the NPT, together with delegates from cities and towns across the US.

Massachusetts Peace Action will be organizing participation from Cambridge residents.

In the spirit of Peace on Earth of this holiday season, please support the Mayors for Peace Resolution national and international effort to reduce the risk of nuclear catastrophe.

Thank you for your attention.

*Philly, Nancy, Nicki, Wendy, Ann, Fes, Paul, Ma, Ben, Bob
Randy, PORSBEAL, KADDA, JSINIS,*