

PEACE BE UNTO YOU (4/13/15)

HELLO EVERYBODY, I'M HASSON RASHID OF 820 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, MY PUBLIC COMMENT IS ON CITY MANAGERS AGENDA I#1, CALENDAR ITEM#4, AWAITING REPORTS I#14-91;I#15-28, AND OTHER AGENDA ITEMS THAT PERTAIN TO HOMELESSNESS, FOUNDRY AND VOLPE PROPERTIES.

TO BEGIN, I FEEL THAT ALL APPOINTMENTS SUCH AS THAT OF CHRISTOPHER BATOR TO THE CAMBRIDGE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SHOULD ALSO BE BASED UPON A TRACK RECORD, AND EVIDENCE THAT THE APPOINTEE HAS DEMONSTRATED A SENSITIVITY TO THE HOMELESS SECTOR HERE OR ELSEWHERE, ENTERED INTO THE PUBLIC RECORD.

IN CAMBRIDGE HOMELESSNESS HAS OFFICIALLY BEEN DESIGNATED AS A CRISIS, PARTLY BECAUSE OF LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, ACTUALLY, HOMELESSNESS IS ALSO A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS. SOME OF OUR MUNICIPAL POLICY MAKERS HAVE ALSO OFFICIALLY CALLED FOR THE EASING AND ERADICATION, OF HOMELESSNESS AS AN OFFICIAL HIGH PRIORITY OBJECTIVE AND GOAL. ALSO SOME OF OUR MUNICIPAL POLICY MAKERS, ETC., HAS OFFICIALLY FAILED TO LET ITS SOCIAL/ HUMAN SERVICES, AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS KNOW SPECIFICALLY, THAT THIS FOUNDRY BUILDING PROPERTY, AND I GO ON RECORD, ALSO INCLUDING THE VOLPE PROPERTIES, WAS AND IS AVAILABLE FOR HOMELESSNESS AND OTHER POVERTY USES.

I GO ON RECORDING SAYING THAT BOTH UNUTILIZED AND UNDERUTILIZED PROPERTIES, SHOULD BE DONATED TO ONE OF THESE DEPARTMENTS, SUCH AS CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TO ADDRESS THE SUBPOPULATIONS IDENTIFIED, AS HAVING HIGH PRIORITY NEEDS, BY THE HOMELESS SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE (HSPC), THE CITY 'S SENIOR POLICY GROUP ON HOMELESSNESS, OTHER ACTIVE COMMITTEES, AND GROUPS.

THESE COMPLIANCE ISSUES ARE ALSO SPELLED OUT IN THE FEDERAL FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN. EACH CITY DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO LET OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS KNOW, OF ANY CITY OWNED PROPERTY, THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, ETC., CONSIDERS SURPLUS TO ITS NEEDS, AND TO CONDUCT RESEARCH INTO HOW AND WHY, THE HOMELESS SECTOR IS AFFECTED BY ZONING ORDINANCES. THANK YOU.

YOURS IN PEACE,
MR. HASSON J. RASHID