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MAY 18, 2015

PEACE BE UNTO YOU:

HELLO EVERYBODY, I'M HASSON RASHID, AND I RESIDE AT 820 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE. ON MAY 2, A HOMELESS MAN WAS VIOLENTLY ASSUALTED, WHILE HE WAS SLEEPING IN HARVARD SQUARE. I THINK THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE HOMELESS SECTOR, SHOULD BE ENACTED INTO LAW, OR LEGISLATED AS A HATE CRIME. THAT ISN'T WHAT I'M HERE TODAY TO COMMENT ON, MY COMMENT WILL BE ABOUT ITEMS# 6,7 ON THE CITY MANAGERS AGENDA; 15-03,15-05 FROM AWAITING REPORTS; 5,6 FROM POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION, AND ANY OTHER AGENDA ITEMS THAT PERTAINS TO THE HOMELESS SECTOR.

FIRST OF ALL, I THINK THAT ANY CREDIBLE MEASURES THAT OUR CITY'S POLICY MAKERS TAKE TO EASE AND ERADICATED, HOMELESS IS WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD. IT IS GOOD THAT THE AGENDA IS FILLED WITH ITEMS THAT RELATE TO ADRESSING THE CONTINUUM OF HOMELESS HOUSING NEEDS.

SECONDLY, I THINK THAT THE CITY IS INVIOLATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPEMNTS (HUD) MANDATES, PERTAINING TO DECLARING VACANT CITY OWNED PROPERTY, AS BEING AVAILBLE FOR ACCOMODATING HOMELESS HOUSING NEEDS, IN COMPLIANCE WITH ANNUAL AND CONSOLIDATED PLANNING AND REPORTING. I'M TALKING ABOUT THE FOUNDRY BUILDING LAYING VACANT AND IDLE, FOR SEVERAL YEARS, WHILE THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL HOMELESS HOUSING CONTINUED INCREASING.

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, ALONG WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES, ALL ENDORSE HOMELESSNESS, AS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE, THAT SHOULD BE GIVIN THE HIGHEST PRIORITIES, BY MUNICIPAL POLICY MAKERS AND AUTHORITIES.

IN REALITY THE FOUNDRY BUILDING, CITY OWNED VACANT PROPERTY AND FACILITIES, REPRESENTS A REAR GOD SENT OPPORTUNTY AS A PLACE, THAT IS SUITABLE, AND THAT CAN HELP FILL THE VACUUM THAT EXIST IN CAMBRIDGE FOR HOMELESS HOUSING. UNFORTUNATLEY, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, ANOTHER ACT OF EXCLUSION OF THE HOMELESS SECTOR, IS TRANSPIRING IN, OUR MIDTS, RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES, IN REGARDS TO THE FOUNDRY BUILDING AFFAIR.

HOW CAN EVERYTHING BE BALANCED AND EQUAL, IN MUNICIPAL SOCIAL ECONOMIC PLANNING,WHILE OPPORTUNITIES TO ADDRESS HOMELESS AND POVERTY ISSUES, ON VACANT CITY OWN PROPERTY AND FACILTIES, ARE BEING CIRCUMVENTED, FOR NO SENSIBLE OR VALID REASON AT ALL.

YOURS IN PEACE,

Mr. HASSON J. RASHID