

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
City Hall Annex Inman & Broadway EXTENSION 344

To James L. Sullivan, City Manager

From Dan Weisberg, Transportation Planner **Date** February 19, 1981

Subject Proposed Ordinance Increasing Taxi Fares

The proposed taxi fare ordinance will change the fare structure by increasing the first mileage increment, when the flag is dropped, from one-fifth to two-sevenths with the cost remaining at 95 cents. The additional mileage increments have decreased from one-fifth to one-seventh of a mile with the cost remaining at 20 cents. The results is a softening of the impact of the fare increase for the short distance patrons, with the brunt of the impact being felt by the middle and long distance patrons. The following table shows the costs of various length trips under the existing and proposed fare structures.

<u>Distance</u> <u>(miles)</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>(existing)</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>(proposed)</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
1/2	1.35	1.35	0	0
1	1.75	1.95	0.20	11
1½	2.35	2.75	0.40	17
2	2.75	3.35	0.60	22
2½	3.35	4.15	0.80	24
3	3.75	4.75	1.00	27
4	4.75	6.15	1.40	29
5	5.75	7.55	1.80	31

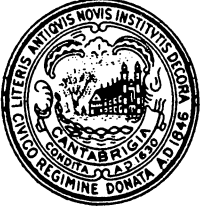
No information exists in the Community Development Department on taxi cab operating costs or how they are affected by the general rate of inflation. In term of gasoline prices, the retail price has increased from about 85 cents per gallon when the last fare increase was approved in June 1979 to about \$1.35 per gallon. This represents about a 60% increase in gasoline costs.

The cost to the elderly is a concern due their dependence on taxis for transportation and fixed incomes. Since their trips tend to be relatively short in distance, they will be feeling less of the impact of the fare increase than the population in general. The DART service and Senior Discount Coupon Program will help to mitigate the cost increase to the elderly.

Waiting time cost will increase from \$10.00 per hour to \$14.00 per hour. This represents a 40% increase.

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OFFICE OF THE
CITY MANAGER



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

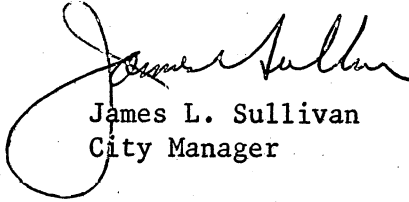
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

February 23, 1981

To the Honorable, the City Council:

With reference to City Council Order No. 4 of January 26,
1981, I transmit herewith communication from Dan Weisberg,
Transportation Planner, relative to the proposed ordinance
increasing taxi fares.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/b

Agenda # 12

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Pertaining to the proposed ordinance increasing taxi fares.

In City Council,

Feb. 23, 1981

2/23/1981

Placed on File