

July 12, 1994

Cambridge City Councilors
City Hall, Cambridge
795 Mass. Ave
Cambridge, MA 02139

RECEIVED
JUL 25 PM 2:13
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MA

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have been talking to various people, including Perry Anderson, about bicyclists riding on the sidewalks, especially in Central and Harvard Square, endangering many people.

Also, I deplore that the bicyclists do not obey any traffic regulations at all, such as stopping for a red light so that I can safely use a walk light. I have to worry about bicyclists every time I use a walk light. They just speed on through!

Cambridge City Councillors

July 12, 1994

This letter is to inform you that if I am injured by a bicyclist flouting the traffic regulations which you do not enforce, I intend to sue the City of Cambridge for millions of dollars. I shall so inform the person who holds my Durable Power of Attorney to act on my behalf if necessary.

I suggest that we not have a bicycle committee to "educate". It's probably costing us money and we are getting nothing for it.

The danger to pedestrians from bicyclists is greater than ever. I suggest you have a big publicity campaign through radio, TV, & newspapers, with special

Cambridge City Councillors

July 12, 1997

information sent to all schools and universities that the City of Cambridge is going to enforce the traffic regulations for bicyclists and that people will be fined just like motorists for disobeying.

They should station a policeman in Howard Square ^{and Central Square} for one week to stop

all cyclists who are running red lights, etc., and riding on the sidewalks and give them a stiff fine. The only way to teach these idiots anything is through their pocket books. I can

Cambridge City Councillors

July 12, 1994

almost guarantee that after a week the problem will be greatly diminished.

I hope you will take this letter seriously and do something. I am 76 years old, have two artificial hips and am losing my vision to macular degeneration of the retina. I have to go to Central and Howard Square now that I can no longer drive. It's terrible to have to be frantic with fear everytime I go, especially because of my infirmities. I am perfectly able to get around at this time, but I am

Cambridge City Councillor

July 12, 1999

too slow and can't see well enough to
dodge bicycles. Do you suggest that I stay home
all the time?

I think before you have a campaign to
encourage more bicycling in Cambridge that you
get the present bicycle riders under control.
They have been a bad problem ever since I came
here 34 years ago and the City Council has
done nothing about it. How do you expect
the children of this city to learn anything
at all about law, order and discipline
if you don't enforce any regulations about
bicycle riding. I imagine most of the

Cambridge City Councillors

July 12, 1954

Children in Cambridge don't even know that there are regulations and they are not supposed to ride on the sidewalks of Howard and Centre Square. You are going to have to make it clear to parents that they will be responsible for the fines their minor children will receive.

This is not only my problem.

Everyone to whom I talk is harassed and terrified by the bicyclists. I was told by an elderly person and a young person that Memorial Drive is a very hot spot.

Cambridge City Councillors

July 12, 1994

It seems the bicyclists will not use the bicycle path but visit on riding on the pedestrian side walk.

The City Council needs to act now to solve this problem. If you don't believe me, each of you should go down to Central Square about now on a sunny day and see for yourself what it's like.

Very truly yours,

LaVonne E. Davidson

LaVonne E. Davidson
287 Harvard St., #19
Cambridge MA 02139

CC Peter Healy - City Manager
Perry Anderson - Police Commissioner
Carol Seiderman - Environmental Program
C Bicycle Committee

Communication #26

W-111

Communication received from
LaVonne E. Davidson, 287 Harvard
Street, in opposition to to
bicycles being ridden on the side-
walks.

In City Council,

August 1, 1994

8/1/94 Referred to the
Bicycle Commission
on motion of Councillor

Sullivan
8/4/94 Copy sent to Casa
Blinderman (de)