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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

JOHN A. McMULLEN
3 HANCOCK PARK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

December 15, 1982

Mayor Alfred Vellucci
Mayor's Office
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Mayor Vellucci,

Just a brief note to ask if it might be possible for the City Council to look into the issue of applying salt to the roads in winter. There seems to be little doubt now that salting of roads is responsible for premature death of shade trees, increased saline level in the underground water table, and extensive damage to public property, such as automobiles, bridges, roads and personal property, like shoes and other apparel.

While I am sure that salting is an efficient way to clear roads of snow and ice and to provide an increased measure of safety in winter, perhaps the costs too greatly outweigh the benefits. Other communities in the United States, in Maine, in the Northwest and even Harvard in our own City avoid use of salt in dealing with winter conditions. They plow the roads and then apply sand which seems to result in an acceptable level of safety.

If you could let me know when the City Council might consider this issue, I will be sure to assemble a qualified list of people to testify on it. Thank you.

Sincerely,



John A. McMullen

cc: MDC (Chairman)
Mass. State Office of Public Safety (snow removal)
Other members of the City Council

2.

S-766

Comm. from John A. McMullen, 2 Hancock Park
Re: applying salt to roads in the winter
months.

*copy sent to the City Manager r/s/sk
mh*

In City Council,

December 27, 1982

12/27/82

- Placed

on

file -

- Long to Long -