



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

March 30, 1998

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. One, regarding the state public bidding law constraints for the application of Federal grant funds to help schools and libraries connect to the Internet, please be advised of the following:

Cambridge schools and libraries are currently in the final process of submitting the necessary forms and applications for reimbursement for various costs associated with Internet infrastructure, networking and telephone expenses. The program developed by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) allows for between a 50 - 60% reimbursement for any expense previously described.

The School Department has applied for these funds to cover specific costs associated with the high school, Peabody and Tobin Schools, and the telephone expenses for the entire School Department.

The library, in conjunction with the Minuteman Library Network, has also applied for reimbursement for Internet and telephone expenses.

The City of Cambridge, unlike Boston, was able to avoid the obstacle of public bidding laws by using approved state vendors to perform the networking and infrastructure requirements.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

Consent Agenda #9

S-22/5

Relative to state public bidding
law constraints for the application
of Federal grant funds to help
schools and libraries connect
to the Internet.

In City Council March 30, 1998

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