

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Traffic, Parking and Transportation
57 Inman Street,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Susan E. Clippinger
Director

Administration	349-4700
Parking Violations	349-4705
Resident Parking	349-4701

October 27, 1998

TO: Robert Healy, City Manager

FROM: Susan E. Clippinger, Director *SC*

SUBJECT: Council Order #036 dated 10/5/98

RE: Report on installing stop sign on Mass. Ave. at Bow Street

The Quincy Square area was previously a large open area with no island to channelize vehicle moves or shorten pedestrian crosswalks. Residents and businesses in the area were actively involved in the development of the design which is currently in place.

There is no stop on Mass. Ave. because this is not a safe or appropriate place to put a stop sign. Stop signs are not speed control devices, they serve the purpose of creating safety at an intersection by determining which approach must stop. The stopped street is the minor volume. The purpose for the stop sign needs to be logical to drivers using the intersection or compliance with the sign will be poor. We install all way stops where the volumes on the two streets are similar and where sight lines are poor.

In the case of Mass. Ave., none of these criteria are met. The current design is a huge improvement over the operations before the park was built. Currently, cars, bicycles and pedestrians who are crossing Mass. Ave. have to wait for a car to stop for them or for a gap in the traffic. There are ample gaps for the crossing to be made. A survey was done in July of how long pedestrians had to wait to cross Mass. Ave. The results are attached and show that the wait was short.

RECEIVED
OCT 29 1998
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
15 01 PM
410-51

**DELAY STUDY DATA ANALYSIS
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE @ BOW STREET**

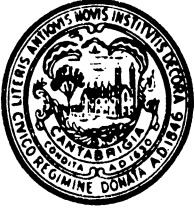
observer: Brendan Greaves

dates (times): Thursday, July 17, 1997 (3:00-3:30 p.m.)
Tuesday, July 29 (4:30-5:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, July 30 (4:30-5:00 p.m.)
Thursday, July 31 (4:30-5:00 p.m.)

weather: sunny, in the 80°'s all four days

Delay	Avg. # Pedestrians/ 30 minutes	Percent Pedestrians
<i>0-5 seconds</i>	66.7	67.6%
<i>5-10</i>	21.3	21.5%
<i>10-15</i>	5.3	5.3%
<i>15-20</i>	3.3	3.3%
<i>20-25</i>	1.3	1.3%
<i>25 +</i>	1.1	1.0%

Avg. Total Pedestrians/ 30 Minutes: 98.8



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307



H.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

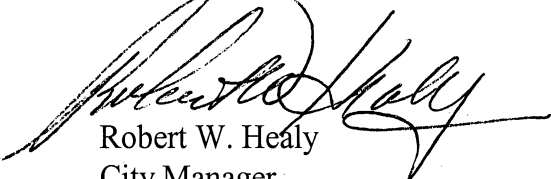
RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

November 9, 1998

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 25, regarding a report on installing a stop sign on Massachusetts Avenue at Bow Street, received from Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #4

7125

Relative to AW #25, regarding a
report on installing a stop sign
on Massachusetts Avenue at Bow
Street.

In City Council November 9, 1998.

Placed on File.