

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council declare October 4, 2008 as Oliver Smoot Day in Cambridge, and that this declaration be presented to Oliver Smoot and MIT in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Smoot Measurement; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to MIT President Susan Hockfield and Mr. Oliver Smoot on behalf of the entire City Council.

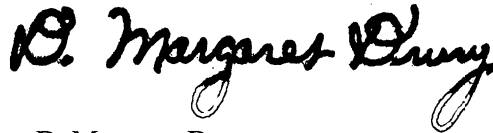
In City Council September 22, 2008.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D. Margaret Drury". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



City of Cambridge

R-31.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 22, 2008

MAYOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR MAHER
VICE MAYOR MURPHY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SEIDEL
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: When Oliver Smoot arrived at MIT as a freshman in 1958, the pledge master of his fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, decided that Oliver would serve as the living unit of measure for the task assigned to the incoming group of pledges—to measure the Harvard Bridge; and

WHEREAS: In October of that year, Oliver was upended, over and over again, by his classmates until the length of the Harvard Bridge was traversed, and the bridge was determined to measure 364.4 Smoots $\pm$ an ear; and

WHEREAS: The Smoot increments were then painted onto the bridge to record the official length, and have since been refreshed twice annually over the past 50 years; and

WHEREAS: Oliver Smoot later became Chairman of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and President of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO); and

WHEREAS: The Smoot measurement has been accepted into the lexicon of the measurement industry. Google calculator incorporates Smoots at a length of exactly 67 inches and Google Earth offers the Smoot as a unit of measurement in its software; and

WHEREAS: MIT will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Smoot measurement on Saturday October 4, 2008 with a day of celebration, including a volunteer-staffed riverbank clean-up and the dedication of a new plaque to be placed on the Harvard bridge; and

WHEREAS: Oliver Smoot will be present along with Mayor Simmons, MIT President Susan Hockfield, and other officials; now therefore be it

RESOLUTION #31

Declare October 4, 2008 as Oliver
Smoot Day in the City of
Cambridge

**Mayor Simmons and entire
membership**

**In City Council
September 22, 2008**

ORDER ADOPTED