



City of Cambridge

60.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 12, 1998

COUNCILLOR BORN

WHEREAS: A recent complaint about oversized trucks accessing Rindge Avenue has raised the issue of what truck restrictions currently exist for that road, how those restrictions are posted and whether they are enforced (see attached letter); now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report to the City Council about the above matter specifically addressing the questions:

- In what locations, if any, are these restrictions currently posted?
- What steps could be taken to further notify drivers of any restrictions that exist?
- What enforcement measures are currently being taken to enforce restrictions and what plans might be implemented to immediately increase this enforcement?
- If no restrictions exist, how can new restrictions be expeditiously implemented?

In City Council January 12, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'D. Margaret Drury'.

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

JOHN NACHAZEL**ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR**ADMITTED IN MASSACHUSETTS
AND NEW YORK5TH FLOOR
90 CANAL STREET
BOSTON, MA
02114-2022

(617) 725-0200

December 17, 1997

Hon. Kathleen Born
Councillor, City of Cambridge
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Truck incident, December 13, 1997.

Dear Councillor Born:

This will report an incident that occurred at 11:45 AM, Saturday, December 13, 1997 at the intersection of Rindge and Massachusetts Avenues in Cambridge.

Rindge Avenue is a busy pedestrian street passing playgrounds, library and schools, frequented by children. The intersection of Rindge and Massachusetts Avenues is a very dangerous intersection for pedestrians and vehicles. Pemberton Street forms a "T" intersection with Rindge Avenue approximately fifty (50) feet from the intersection of Rindge and Massachusetts Avenues, creating even more confusion at the location. I and my wife Van-Thi Huynh have witnessed several collisions at the intersection. At least one sign posted on Rindge Avenue near Massachusetts Avenue limits vehicles using Rindge Avenue to those weighing two-and-a-half (2-1/2) tons or less.

At the above mentioned time and date my wife and I saw a truck cab pulling a trailer traveling on Rindge Avenue towards Massachusetts Avenue that stopped at the intersection for a red light. The cab and trailer were at least as high as any I have observed on an interstate highway. I paced off the length of the cab and trailer, and estimate its length as ninety (90) feet. I do not believe that the cab trailer and contents could reasonably have weighed less than two-and-a-half (2-1/2) tons. While

JOHN NACHAZEL

Hon. Kathleen Born

December 17, 1997

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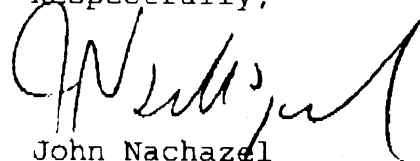
stopped for the light the trailer completely blocked the intersection of Rindge Avenue and Pemberton Street. The cab and trailer was all white in color, and bore the words, in red, "Transport Logistics" and New Jersey license plate AC 619Z.

In my opinion the truck's travel on Rindge Avenue is illegal, or certainly should be. It is my further opinion that such use of Rindge Avenue, and Massachusetts Avenue for that matter, creates great danger to the residents of the nearby neighborhood. I cannot conceive how the driver of the truck could possibly see or know whether children or elderly persons, particularly, were near, in back of, at the side of, or under the trailer. This danger is even greater when such trucks make turns at intersections.

Immediately after observing the truck I telephoned a report of the incident, including license number to the front desk of the Cambridge Police Department. The desk officer listened to my report and told me to report the incident to Sgt. Ahern at 349-3306. I telephoned Sgt. Ahern today. He was not in his office. I left my name, telephone numbers and a brief report with the individual answering Sgt. Ahern's telephone.

My wife and I have in the past observed several similar, large, long, high, dangerous trucks traveling on Rindge Avenue and on Massachusetts Avenue in North Cambridge. We ask that this cease and that you and your fellow Councillors investigate this matter, both specific and general, and take action to remedy same.

Respectfully,



John Nachazel

JN:vth
12179701

60.

Born Orders #1

Whereas: A recent complaint about oversized trucks accessing Rindge Avenue has raised the issue of what truck restrictions currently exist for that road, how those restrictions are posted and whether they are enforced. (see attached letter), therefore be it

Ordered: That the city manager report to the council about the above matter specifically addressing the questions:

Are there currently in place any restrictions which govern the size, weight, and length or type of trucks allowed on Rindge Avenue?

In what locations if any are these restrictions currently posted?

What steps could be taken to further notify drivers of any restrictions that exist?

What enforcement measures are currently being taken to enforce restrictions and what plans might be implemented to immediately increase this enforcement?

If no restrictions exist, how can new restrictions be expeditiously implemented?

#2

61.

Whereas: Despite a Council Order introduced by Councillor Born in December requesting the strict enforcement of laws regarding the responsibility of property owners to clear sidewalks in front of their properties of snow and ice in a timely manner after storms to ensure the safety of pedestrians using the sidewalks, in the last storm many sidewalks remained icy and dangerous for weeks following the storm, therefore be it

Ordered: That the City Manager, in a timely fashion, report to the council what measures are being taken to enforce ordinances regarding clearing of sidewalks of snow and ice following storms.

#3

Ordered: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate authorities to enforce the restriction against parking on the playground area on Columbus Avenue at Alewife Brook Parkway

add her name

#60

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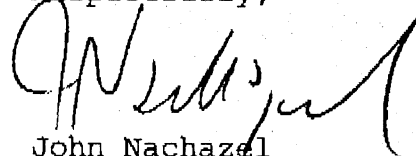
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Respectfully,



John Nachazel

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Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, located in the middle of the page.



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Consent Order #60

10-CM

Councillor Born re: Complaints about
oversized trucks accessing Rindge Ave.

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In City Council January 12, 1998

ORDER ADOPTED