



# City of Cambridge

64.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 2, 1998

COUNCILLOR RUSSELL  
COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
MAYOR DUEHAY  
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO  
COUNCILLOR REEVES  
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Law Department to confer with the staff of the Mayor of Boston regarding the possibility of reviewing their home rule petition regarding stronger regulations for bicycle couriers to determine if they could be made applicable to Cambridge, information from the Boston Globe is attached.

In City Council February 2, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

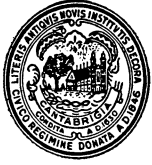
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

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

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk



# City of Cambridge

64.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 26, 1998

COUNCILLOR RUSSELL

**ORDERED:** That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Law Department to confer with the staff of the Mayor of Boston regarding the possibility of reviewing their home rule petition regarding stronger regulations for bicycle couriers to determine if they could be made applicable to Cambridge, information from the Boston Globe is attached.

REFERRED TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 2/2/98 ON  
MOTION OF COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN.



64  
Councillor Russell

RECEIVED BY  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
98 JAN 22 AM 10 43

Resolved: That the City Manager  
be and hereby is requested to  
direct the Law Dept to confer  
with the staff of the Mayor of  
Boston regarding the possibility  
of reviewing their home rule  
petition regarding stronger  
regulations for bicycle carriers  
~~and perhaps~~ to determine if  
they could be made applicable  
to Cambridge - Information from  
Boston also attached.

#64

# New bike courier rules are proposed

By Anthony Flint  
GLOBE STAFF

Police Commissioner Paul F. Evans has proposed tough new regulations for bicycle couriers and messengers calling for more visible identification, stricter registration rules, and a requirement that all riders be fully insured.

The proposed rules, submitted to Mayor Thomas M. Menino, also stiffen penalties for violations. Made public on Thursday, the regulations are in the form of a home-rule petition because of changes in the authority of the Police Department, and require approval by the City Council and the state Legislature.

Calls for tougher bike courier regulations came after Boston School Committee member William Spring was struck by a bicycle messenger last October.

"We hope we can help the industry better regulate itself," said Carol Thompson, the neighborhood policing attorney for Area D, who helped author the legislation.

The proposed changes would give the police commissioner the power to deny, suspend, or revoke licenses for commercial bike messenger vendors. Because state law says that anyone can ride a bike on a public way, such an addition of authority to the police commissioner requires passage in a home-rule petition.

The proposed changes would also require couriers to update their registrations when they move from agency to agency; that registration numbers be made visible on the rider's back with reflective material; that all bikes carry license plates; and that riders carry licenses in a transparent armband at all times.

Thompson said the more visible identification will help track down "rogue messengers who run into people and then take off." She added that "this shouldn't be misconstrued that every bike messenger violates the traffic laws, but there have obviously been incidents."

The increased fines call for \$100 for the first offense and \$150 for the second. Subsequent offenses within one year would be \$300 per violation.

Also, either riders or their agencies must have insurance, covering \$50,000 in property damages and up to \$100,000 for the injury or death of anyone involved in an accident.

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Consent Order #64

CM-28

Councillor Russell re:  
Reviewing Boston's home rule petition  
regarding stronger regulations for bicycle  
couriers.

114

In City Council January 26, 1998

All items carried forward to be a part  
of City Council Meeting of 2/2/98 on  
motion of Councillor Sullivan.

In City Council February 2, 1998.

**ORDER ADOPTED**