

John H. Corcoran, Cambridge City Manager, announced today that the experimental Cambridge-MBTA Mini-Bus serving North Cambridge, Model Cities and East Cambridge, will undergo a minor route modification effective Tuesday, June 19th. The Mini-Bus will no longer run along Beacon Street in Somerville between Inman and Porter Squares. Instead, it will travel along Cambridge Street between Inman Square and the Cambridge Common, and along Massachusetts Avenue between the Common and Porter Square. The remainder of the route between Lechmere and Fresh Pond Shopping Center will remain unchanged.

The route change has been made at the request of a number of riders and potential riders who either live along Massachusetts Avenue and Cambridge Street or, alternatively, live in the areas now served and want to get to Harvard Square conveniently, or to services along Cambridge Street. The route change will make it possible for Cambridge citizens to get to hospitals, the library, and the high schools, in particular, more easily, as well as to the transit cross-roads at Harvard Square. The new route will also add more "revenue miles", as it will eliminate the section through Somerville that now runs on a "closed door" basis. A minor schedule change will result. The new schedule is attached.

Mr. Corcoran added that the Mini-Bus is running Monday through Friday, except on holidays, and that it will not run on Monday, June 18th -- Bunker Hill Day. During the three-month trial period, passengers can board or get off the bus at any street corner along the route. The fare is 20¢, or 10¢ for senior citizens and students.

The new route will not actually take the bus into Harvard Square. The closest stops on Massachusetts Avenue will be in the Waterhouse Street/Harvard Law School area; and on Cambridge Street in the Quincy Street/Central Fire Station area. Questions about the route change or any other aspect of the trial Mini-Bus service can be directed to the Department of Planning and Development's transportation division (876-6800, Ext. 355).

Mr. Corcoran pointed out that the Mini-Bus pilot program is now in its fifth week, and that ridership has increased steadily each week. Most riders, however, are from North and West Cambridge, and a great deal still needs to be done to make known the availability of the service in the Model Cities area and in East Cambridge. The City Manager's Mini-Bus Task Force is working on this problem, and is currently completing a translation of the Mini-Bus schedule into Spanish and Portuguese.

The City Manager added that the increasing success of the Mini-Bus program to date has been in large part due to high quality service and initiative on the part of the MBTA drivers handling the route.

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CAMBRIDGE-MBTA MINIBUS SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE JUNE 19, 1973

WESTBOUND (Lechmere to Fresh Pond)

	<u>1st Roundtrip</u>	<u>2nd Roundtrip</u>	<u>3rd Roundtrip</u>	<u>4th Roundtrip</u>
Leaving From:				
Lechmere	8:40	10:40	1:40	3:40
Kendall Square	8:45	10:45	1:45	3:45
Cambridge/Windsor	8:50	10:50	1:50	3:50
Central Square	9:00	11:00	2:00	4:00
Inman Square	9:05	11:05	2:05	4:05
Cambridge Common	9:10	11:10	2:10	4:10
Porter Square	9:15	11:15	2:15	4:15
Walden/Sherman	9:20	11:20	2:20	4:20
Arriving:				
Fresh Pond	9:25	11:25	2:25	4:25

EASTBOUND (Fresh Pond to Lechmere)

Leaving From:				
Fresh Pond	9:35	11:35	2:35	4:35
Walden/Sherman	9:40	11:40	2:40	4:40
Porter Square	9:45	11:45	2:40	4:45
Cambridge Common	9:50	11:50	2:50	4:50
Inman Square	9:55	11:55	2:55	4:55
Central Square	10:00	12:00	3:00	5:00
Cambridge/Windsor	10:05	12:05	3:05	5:05
Kendall Square	10:10	12:10	3:10	5:10
Arriving:				
Lechmere	10:15	12:15	3:15	5:15

Lunch break for driver 12:15 - 1:40

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Comm. from John H. Corcoran outlining
modifications in the routes covered by
Cambridge - MBTA Mini Bus Experimental
program.

In City Council

June 25, 1973

6/25/73

Placed on File