

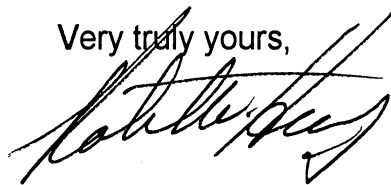
vehicles traveling from McGrath Highway, and increasing pedestrian safety. My office is in the process of setting up this meeting.

- (4) The City of Cambridge will contact the MDC to try to assist Craes Development Company on the repair of the MDC-owned sewer pipe behind the facility.
- (5) The City will work with the MDC and the City Electrician to improve lighting along the pathway between the hockey rink and Gore Street Park.

It is also important to highlight the status of Rufo Road, a privately-owned road used extensively for access to the mall and as a cut-through from McGrath Highway. The City has begun the final foreclosure proceedings on the bulk of this property (the portion that is located in Cambridge) for failure to pay real estate taxes. Once foreclosed (estimated to be completed- assuming no complications - in early to mid 1998), the City will own the property and obviously exert more control over its use. We will soon begin an analysis of the traffic and pedestrian patterns on this road, and will make a recommendation on its use to the City Council for its approval. Options include: accepting it as a public way, installing sidewalks and proper striping to increase safety; making it a one-way street to allow access into the mall, but discourage its use as a cut-through; or perhaps, closing it as a vehicular access point entirely.

I am very pleased that the new owners of Twin City Mall are willing to be responsive to the community's concerns. I will keep the City Council informed of developments as they occur.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert W. Healy', written over the closing 'yours,'.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager



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9.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

August 4, 1997

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #6 and #7 regarding pedestrian safety measures in and around Twin City Mall, please be advised of the following:

The ownership of the Twin City Mall has changed over the past year, which has presented new opportunities to improve pedestrian safety in this area. Staff from my office, the Department of Public Works and Community Development Office met with members of the East Cambridge Planning Team to walk the site and review their concerns; a subsequent meeting was then held with the General Manager of the mall's new management company, Craes Development Company of Lynnfield. The meeting with Craes Development Company was extremely productive. The company and the City have agreed to the following actions:

- (1) Craes Development Company agreed to install a concrete sidewalk from Gore Street at Lambert Street, up to the mall, allowing a curb cut for the current vehicle access to the parking lot on the left. Proper signage and a crosswalk will be installed at the curb cut. This work will be coordinated with the City Engineer, and the City will tie the new sidewalk to the existing sidewalk and access ramp on Gore Street.
- (2) Craes Development Company will install a sidewalk for a portion of the perimeter of Gore Street Park - from the park pathway (behind the softball field backstop) up to the crosswalk opposite McDonalds. The City of Cambridge will trim back the evergreen trees along this route.
- (3) Craes Development Company expressed a willingness to sit down with the City to review the vehicular and pedestrian circulation in this parking lot, with the goals of reducing/eliminating the use of Rufo Road as a cut-through by

Consent Agenda #9

11

S-450

Relative to Awaiting Report Item
Numbers Six and Seven, regarding
pedestrian safety measures in and
around Twin City Mall.

In City Council August 4 1997

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