



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

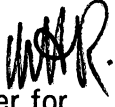
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

City Hall Annex - Inman & Broadway - Cambridge, Mass. 02139

617-349-4600

Fax 617-349-4669

To: Robert W. Healy
City Manager

From: Michael H. Rosenberg 
Assistant City Manager for
Community Development Department

Subject: Council Order #54, dated June 24, 1991,
Re: Tot Lot on Lopez Street

Date: July 18, 1991

In response to concerns regarding the utilization of 'ricestone' at Lopez Tot Lot, this is widely used as an acceptable safety material. It is a small non-crushed stone with rounded edges. Sand and ricestone are both equivalent products and the cost of each is comparable. The primary purpose of these loose materials is to provide a cushion to prevent serious head injury due to falls from play structures. Rice stone provides more of a cushion than sand and it has better drainage characteristics. While spill over of this material on walks is undesirable this problem could be alleviated by more frequent sweeping.

It is always unfortunate when a child is injured, however, there are inherent risks with using any play equipment. The 'ricestone' itself does not pose a continuing safety problem and was never intended on an experimental basis.

Finally, please be aware that this is a select material which would need to be removed by hand and replaced with an equally costly substitute. Economically it would not make sense to make a change at this time. It is not possible to use machinery to efficiently remove the bulk of this material and to replace with sand. The quantity and cost is as follows:

Material Cost Delivered

Lopez Street Tot Lot	37 cubic yards
Alberico Playground	<u>87</u> cubic yards
Total	198 ton x \$16. = \$ 3,168.00

Labor Cost Estimate to Remove and Replace Existing Ricestone by Hand

198 ton x \$35. = \$ 6,930.00

Costs to Repair Fencing, Sod, Curb Damaged During Removal Operation

\$ 1,000.00

Total Cost to City

\$11,098.00



City of Cambridge

54.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 24, 1991

*Receivd
Payer*

VICE MAYOR REEVES

WHEREAS: The Tot Lot on Lopez Street was provided with a ground cover of small stones, which residents of the area were told was being done as an experiment, and

WHEREAS: To date one child has fallen on the ground and had two small stones lodged in one knee, which stones had to be surgically removed, and a second child has had a stone lodged in this nose, and

WHEREAS: The neighbors of the Lopez Street Tot Lot were promised a replacement ground cover of sand two years ago and this has not yet been provided, and

WHEREAS: The threat to the safety of children using this Tot Lot continues, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council request the City Manager to consult with the Community Development Department and report back in one week with a date for when this ground cover replacement will occur.

In City Council June 24, 1991.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 349-4300
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

August 7, 1991
~~July 29, 1991~~

To The Honorable, The City Council:

With reference to Awaiting Report Item No. 66, regarding the Tot Lot on Lopez Street, please find attached a response from Michael H. Rosenberg, Assistant City Manager for Community Development, relative to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev
attachment

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM # 14 S-905

Awaiting Report Item # 66, regarding
the Tot Lot on Lopez Street.

In City Council,

August 7, 1991

Placed on file