

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

57 INMAN STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 TEL. 498-9042

DEPARTMENT OF
TRAFFIC & PARKING

STREET CLEANING ANALYSIS 1984

George Teso
Director

A. INTRODUCTION

The City Council has requested an analysis of the existing Street Cleaning Program as it compares to a proposed program submitted by Mr. Nicholas Adams of 46 Shepard Street. I have tried to put together some realistic figures supplied to me by the Cambridge Police Department and the Cambridge Public Works Department. This report also reflects the views of these departments.

As you know the Traffic Department after many years of trying to design a program came up with the existing program which has been used since 1974.

B. EXISTING PROGRAM

The existing street sweeping program is designed to clean each street at least once a month with signs posted on every street stating the day of the month that the street will be cleaned. This program which had its problems in the beginning requires the cooperation of the Police, Public Works and Traffic Department to insure that the program works, but the burden is put on the resident who must move his vehicle for the sweepers to clean the streets. The cooperation from the residents has been tremendous and as a whole the program is working very well. We believe and most of the public agree that to move a vehicle for only six hours a month is no hardship on the resident.

C. COSTS OF EXISTING PROGRAM

These costs are the figures given to us by the Police and Public Works Departments which do not include the Traffic Department's costs which are minimal at this time

as all the signing has been accomplished and most of the time with the street cleaning program is notifying the public on the dates which their streets are to be cleaned.

1. PUBLIC WORKS COSTS: APRIL 1, 1984 - NOVEMBER 19, 1984

1 - Highway Foreman 4 hrs.day X 14.2135/hr.	= \$ 56.85/day
2 - Working Foreman 16 hrs/day X 12.0048/hr	= 192.08/day
2 - Motor Equipment Operator I 16 hrs.day X 10.7292/hr.	= 171.67/day
2 - Pickups 16 hrs/day X 10.00/hr.	= 160.00/day
2 - 5 yd. trucks 16/hrs/day X 20.00/hr.	= 320.06/day
2 - Sweepers @ \$421.52/day	= 843.04/day

Total \$1743.64/day

2. POLICE DEPARTMENT COSTS: APRIL 1, 1984 - NOVEMBER 19, 1984

2 Police officers 8 hrs/day X 14.64/hr.	=\$ 117.12/day
2 Police officers 16/hrs/day X 14.64/hr.	= 234.24/day

Total =\$ 351.36/day

3. TOTAL COSTS APRIL 1, 1984 - NOVEMBER 19, 1984

Public Works \$1743.64/day X 137 days	= \$238 878.68
Police Department \$351.36/day X 137 days	= 48 136.32

Total \$287 015.00

D. REVENUES

In determining the revenues received by the City of Cambridge due to street cleaning we had to assume certain facts such as the collection of parking fines as there is no way at this time that we can find out if all these tickets were paid or if every vehicle was issued a parking ticket.

1. VEHICLES TOWED APRIL 1, 1984 - November 19, 1984

April	1348 towed	17 days	=	79.3/day
May	1131 towed	17 days	=	66.5/day
June	1036 towed	19 days	=	54.5/day
July	939 towed	19 days	=	49.4/day
August	985 towed	18 days	=	54.7/day
September	1092 towed	18 days	=	60.7/day
October	1153 towed	18 days	=	64.1/day
November	805 towed	11 days	=	73.2/day
Totals	8489 towed	137 days	=	62.0/day

2. REVENUES FROM 10% TOWING

\$2.50 from \$25.00 towing fee X 8489 Veh. = \$21 222.50

3. REVENUES FROM PARKING TICKETS

8489 Vehicles Towed = 8489 parking tickets @ \$15.00/ticket = \$127 335.00

Total Revenue ~~Revenue~~ \$148 557.50

E. PROPOSED STREET CLEANING PROGRAM

In Mr. Adams proposal which we think is a very fine gesture on his part, he proposes that the same program that is now in effect remain but that the method of removing the vehicles be changed and that the cost of the parking ticket be increased to cover the additional costs. In answering the questions that have arisen, I have talked to all parties concerned in this program and they represent a consensus of all agencies.

1. TOWING OF VEHICLES

Mr. Adams proposes that any vehicle parked on these streets during street cleaning days be picked up by the tow truck and taken around the block and

and dropped at the curb after the street is cleaned. This would require that the tow trucks be hired by the hour and where there are 15 to 16 cars in one block that must be towed we would need 15 to 16 tow trucks.

2. INCREASING OF EXISTING PARKING FINES

The existing maximum fine allowed by state law is now \$15.00. The City of Boston has been trying to get this changed to \$25.00 for many years but the legislature will not even consider an increase of any kind.

3. COSTS OF THIS PROGRAM

Again, I have had to rely on the other agencies involved to get these figures and in putting these figures together we had to make certain decisions and conclusions. It is our opinion that in order to insure that these streets were cleaned within the six hour time frame, we would have to utilize more policemen, public works employees and sweepers as the program proposed would take longer than the existing program.

a. Tow Trucks By the Hour

The tow companies have indicated that they could not operate in this mode for less than \$40.00 per hour. They rely on storage fees to offset their towing costs.

b. Public Works Costs

We will assume the same daily costs that exist now even though we feel that more sweepers will be needed

c. Police Department Costs

The Police Department feels that they would have to add another officer on the street as with all the records now being kept by the police, they would need more time.

1 - Police officer 8 hrs/day X \$14.64/hr = \$117.12/day

117.12/day X 137 days = \$16 045 additional costs.

d. Traffic and Parking Department Costs

The bookkeeping involved with this program could be accomplished with adding a clerical person at a cost of \$5 000 per year.

e. Insurance Claims

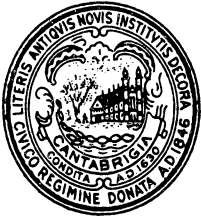
This figure cannot be determined at this time but we can assume there will be lawsuits concerning vehicles that will be damaged during and after towing.

4. REVENUES

Using the same number of vehicles towed and the same number of tickets issued the revenues from this program will be the same as it is now.

F. CONCLUSIONS

In comparing the two programs we can commend Mr. Adams for his ideas and his concern but we have come to the conclusion that the cost of the tow trucks approximately (\$400 per hour X 6 hours X 137 days) = \$328 800; the cost of a police officer \$16 045; the cost of an additional clerical person \$5 000 would change the cost of the program from \$287 015 per year to \$636 860 per year, an increase of \$349 845. In order for the City to makeup the difference the parking fines would have to be increased from \$15.00 to \$40.00. Again this is the consensus of all the agencies involved and although we do not agree with Mr. Adams we always welcome new ideas to make Cambridge a better City to live in.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

December 3, 1984

To the Honorable, the City Council:

With respect to City Council Order No. 14 of October 29, 1984 relative to a towing and ticketing of vehicles for street cleaning purposes, enclosed please find copy of a report from George Teso, Traffic Director.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mbf
Enc.

S-735

Re: report from the Director of Traffic & Parking, pursuant to City Council Order No. 14 of October 29, 1984, regarding the towing & ticketing of vehicles for street cleaning purposes.

In City Council,

December 3, 1984

12/3/84

Placed

on
File