



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

November 9, 1987

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report No. 31 and the public hearing scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight, I submit the following report relative to park improvements at Paine Playground on Amory Street. Paine Playground is a small neighborhood park located in a highly-congested neighborhood. The park consists of a basketball court, a tot lot, and a passive sitting area.

In 1985, the Community Development Department conducted a study to evaluate the conditions of the park and assess the needs of the surrounding neighborhood. As a result of the study, the City made several needed repairs to the park including the replacement of the two basketball hoops, the redirection of the lighting, improvements to the safety of the play equipment with the addition of rubber surfacing, and the addition of new swings, fencing, and plantings. The new basketball hoops with state-of-the-art backboards were installed at the request of abutters to muffle the noise created by previous equipment.

In response to complaints regarding youths loitering in the park at night, the Police Department was directed to increase surveillance of the area. I have recently requested that Chief Paolillo continue to monitor the situation.

To date, the City has invested \$30,000 to make repairs and upgrade existing conditions at Paine Playground. In addition, a 3-foot fence will soon be installed around the tot lot area to protect toddlers from the basketball court. Any further requests for expenditures at Paine Playground will be considered as part of the Capital Budget process. No additional funds for park improvements will be available until July 1988. We will continue to meet with the neighborhood to discuss their concerns and to investigate ways to include them in maintaining Paine Playground as a safe and pleasant play area.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Agenda Item NO. 9 S-654

Re: response to Awaiting Report Item 31 on
park improvements at Paine Playground.

In City Council,

November 9, 1987

Referred to the
Hearing on 11-9-87
at 7:00 p.m.

11-9-87