

May 20, 2002

see 5/20 @ 7:12  
6/10/02

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To The Honorable Timothy J. Toomey  
City Council, City of Cambridge  
City Hall – Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councilor Toomey,

REPORT FROM BLANCHARD ROAD – May, 2002

The speeding traffic continues unabated. Reckless drivers continue to damage our properties, shredding our bushes and knocking down our fences in spite of the "Slow", "Speed Limit" and other signs erected by the Traffic Department last year. Trucks continue to spill debris as they, too, speed along our streets, with the worst spillage happening at the severe curve in front of numbers 2, 3 and 4 Blanchard.

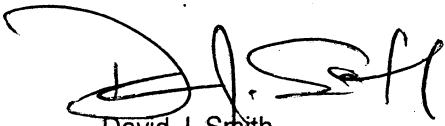
Medical response vehicles speed down Blanchard Road to Grove Street and beyond, with sirens screaming even when no traffic is present. Police do occasionally patrol the street, but because we are at the very western edge of the city, we really only experience a police presence when a security alarm is activated.

However, the quality of life on our street has been more adversely affected by a recent decision to disallow pruning or trimming of the trees along the border of the golf course, and to allow the trees to grow wildly. Our vistas are severely obstructed, and repeated conversations with the city arborist and other authorities have produced no results other than a general comment that "our hands are tied".

Most of us, the 33 taxpayers in this neighborhood, bought our homes because of the wonderful views, deciding to live with the street conditions mentioned above because of the views. Now our views are no longer available to us.

We are confident that we speak for the vast majority of the owners in this matter. As taxpayers living in this location, we have been denied any input into a decision which has adversely and unfairly affected the pleasure our properties used to afford us.

We respectfully ask your aid in resolving this matter.



David J. Smith  
4 Blanchard Road  
617-868-5960



Rudolph R. Russo  
2 Blanchard Road  
617-547-8815

cc: City Manager



# City of Cambridge

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IN CITY COUNCIL

June 10, 2002

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
VICE MAYOR DAVIS  
COUNCILLOR DECKER  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO  
COUNCILLOR MAHER  
COUNCILLOR MURPHY  
COUNCILLOR REEVES  
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS  
MAYOR SULLIVAN

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council regarding the conditions of speeding on Blanchard Road and the decision to disallow pruning or trimming of trees along the golf course border which affects the neighborhoods view of the area as outlined in the attached communication.

In City Council June 10, 2002.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

CM-128

**ORDER #2**

Request the City Manager to report back to the City Council regarding the conditions of speeding on Blanchard Road and the decision to disallow pruning or trimming of trees along the Golf Course border.

**Councillor Toomey**

**In City Council June 10, 2002**

**ORDER ADOPTED.**