

6 September 1994

The City Council

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

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CAMBRIDGE, MA.

Let you may not have received a copy of the attached letter, dated July 22, 1994, a copy is enclosed.

It should be noted that there was an orderly process for citizen input early on and through out the process. Information was posted, meetings were announced and published, and information freely shared.

It is my hope that the revision will proceed as proposed and scheduled. If so, the Arsenal Square area will be well-served, motorist and pedestrian alike. Perhaps it should be noted that the revision will also serve those outside the immediate area who in large numbers walk or drive through Arsenal Square - day - by day.

July 22, 1994

19 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am in favor of the proposal for modifying the flow of traffic, and thus pedestrian flow, at Arsenal Square. I commend the Traffic Department, et al, for reaching an equitable solution - a workable solution all around. In many ways, the proposed changes enhance the "sense of neighborhood" which long has permeated life in Cambridge. That is a welcome outcome! Little Concord and Follen will be more residential entities and less traffic "short cuts". Arsenal Square will be once again more a neighborhood square and less a confusing auto "roundabout" rotary. A welcome change!

It appears careful consideration was given to pedestrian traffic. The proposed changes not only take into account and protect the casual walking of any neighborhood, but the considerable flow of pedestrians along the street coming into Arsenal Square (Concord, Garden, Massachusetts, and all of the tributary streets). These pedestrians, young and old regularly use Garden, Concord, and Little Concord to reach the Common, Harvard Square, Broadway/Kirkland, Massachusetts Avenue and so on - often for work or public transportation. The proposed changes will correct/mitigate some of the congested areas for pedestrians and motorists alike, such as Waterhouse and both Little Concord and Garden, as well as eliminating the "spider" confusion and congestion at Arsenal Square.

The convergence and confusion of multiple streets is always a problem - even when there are not significant numbers of both pedestrians and motorists. I'm glad this matter has been "thought through" to an equitable solution and proposal. This area should be safer and easier to use for both motorist and pedestrian - and a more pleasant neighborhood as well.

Please note that a letter sent on July 14, 1994 to the Council, the Mayor, the City Manager from residents of the "Waterhouse Trust Complex" was signed by several tenants of some of the various sections of the apartments, also known as Arsenal Square Trust. The opinions expressed should not be viewed as representing necessarily a consensus of the tenants. There is no formal, duly organized tenant organization to elicit and present a representative tenant opinion. Some tenants choose to meet to discuss and issue opinions about matters of concern to them. The July 14th communication is a case in point - it may or may not reflect the opinions of other tenants.

I am opposed to delaying construction for a "trial" period. It would not only delay the construction unnecessarily, but would use the funding to no avail. There have been at the least four open, public meetings. The plan has been coordinated with those of contiguous areas. I hope the project will proceed as planned so that it may be completed this fall.

Sincerely,

Margaret M. Plymire

Margaret Plymire

Consent Comm # 4

S-391

Communication from Margaret Plymire,
19 Garden Street, regarding the
traffic modifications for the Arsenal
Square area.

In City Council,

Sept. 19, 1994

Placed on file