



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BETH RUBENSTEIN
Acting Assistant City
Manager for Community
Development

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager

From: Beth Rubenstein, Acting Assistant City Manager for Community
Development

Susan Clippinger, Director, Traffic, Parking & Transportation *SC*

Date: May 12, 1999

Re: Committee Report Order #001b, dated 4/26/99
Committee Report Order #001c, dated 4/26/99
Committee Report Order #001d, dated 4/26/99

In response to the above referenced orders, I report the following:

In recent years, Cambridge has seen an increase in the number of private shuttle services operating in the city. Most of these services are intended to move employees between their office and a nearby MBTA station, thereby reducing single occupant vehicle travel and the resulting negative impacts. At the same time, Cambridge residents also have unmet mobility needs that might be well served by additional shuttle services. Interest has been expressed in expanding the scope of these services and opening them to the general public, thereby helping to meet these mobility needs and further reduce the use of single-occupant vehicles.

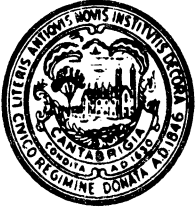
On March 31, 1999, the City Council Committee on Traffic and Transportation held a meeting to discuss existing shuttle services in Cambridge and ways in which these services could be expanded and/or made available to the general public. A number of different topics were discussed at this meeting, including publicly available services operated in other communities (including Newton, Lexington, and Somerville), the role of the Charles River and Alewife Transportation Management Associations (TMA) in providing these shuttle services, and the possibility of using the Parking and Transportation Demand Management (PTDM) Ordinance to increase the number of shuttles and make them available to the public.

Based on this meeting, a number of future tasks were identified to provide more information about the issues discussed:

- Investigate the possibility of opening existing shuttle services to the public through voluntary agreements with private operators.

- Investigate the feasibility of the City making a financial contribution to support existing or future shuttle services operated by a TMA or other organization, and open these shuttle services to the public.
- Investigate the need for new shuttle routes in areas that are not well served by existing public transit service.
- Investigate issues related to stop locations and bus stop signs for existing and planned shuttle services.
- Improve coordination between the various departments that deal with shuttles, including the License Commission, the Department of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation, and the Community Development Department.
- Continue to use the PTDM Ordinance to foster the expansion and coordination of shuttle services.

All of these ideas require further investigation to determine whether they are feasible and/or desirable. Staff from the Community Development Department and Department of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation are currently investigating these various issues and hope to report back by the summer meeting of the City Council.



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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

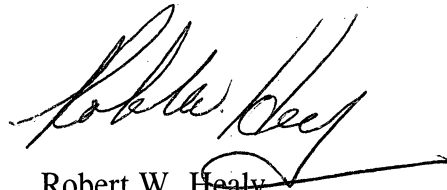
RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

May 17, 1999

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item Nos. 99-90, 99-91 and 99-92, which requested reports on various shuttle service issues, received from Acting Assistant City Manager for Community Development Beth Rubenstein.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #5

37/5

Relative to AW #99-90, 99-91, 99-92,
regarding various shuttle service
issues..

In City Council May 17, 1999

Referred to

Traffic + Transportation Committee

sent to C. Davis 5/20