

CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC
**THE
WORKS**

David A. Haley
Commissioner

147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge
Massachusetts 02139
617-349-4800

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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

[Signature]
To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager
From: *[Signature]* David A. Haley, Commissioner
Public Works
Date: August 14, 1991
Subject: Council Order #54, August 7, 1991
Re: King School Neighborhood Park
Dust Hazard

Please be advised that on June 25, 1991, Richard Medeiros and Jeffrey Nutting met with Ms. Bet MacArthur and several neighbors to discuss the concerns regarding the King School Neighborhood Park.

On June 28, 1991, we replaced the soil with stone dust and placed sand under the swings.

Mr. Nutting has spoken with Ms. MacArthur and she seems satisfied with the results.

If you have any further questions please contact Mr. Nutting or me.





City of Cambridge

*Reverend
Haley*

54.

IN CITY COUNCIL
August 7, 1991

VICE MAYOR REEVES

WHEREAS: This City Council is committed to maintaining the highest possible environmental standards in all Cambridge neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS: A number of residents abutting the King School Neighborhood Park have expressed their concern about the environmental hazard and nuisance created by blowing dust, and by mud, from the playing surface of the park; and

WHEREAS: According to residents, about 50% of the park's surface is a very light dirt known as infield mix, which is blown by the wind into dust clouds often higher than the trees; and

WHEREAS: This blowing dust causes a myriad of problems, including: breathing hazards to children playing in the park; chasing people from sitting in the shade of the park's one large tree; infiltrating abutters' homes and damaging carpeting, draperies, furniture, and appliances -- including choking air conditions filters with grit; damaging car exteriors and engine compartments; and

WHEREAS: Parks Department maintenance workers use blowers to sweep the asphalt abutting the dirt surface and raise huge clouds of dust further endangering their own breathing and those of neighborhood residents; and

WHEREAS: Staff of the King School have also expressed concern about breathing risks to their students and to themselves during supervised play periods; and

WHEREAS: At one time this portion of the park's surface was covered with grass which was removed and replaced with the infield mix, and abutters and users of the park have waited for the nuisance to abate due to curing of the ground, dampening, or some other natural effect but the problem of blowing dust has increased each year; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council request the City Manager to investigate the matter of this dust hazard caused by the material used to cover much of the ground at the King School Neighborhood Park, and report back with a proposed solution to this problem within one week; and be it further

RESOLVED: That in the course of this investigation Ms. Bet MacArthur of 29 Magee Street be consulted.

In City Council August 7, 1991.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

Joseph E. Connarton

ATTEST:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

September 16, 1991

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In reference to Awaiting Report Item No. 61, regarding dust hazard at the King School Neighborhood Park, please find attached a response from David A. Haley, Public Works Commissioner, relative to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev
attachment

Consent Agenda # 7

5-941

Awaiting Report Item Number 61, regarding
dust hazard at the King School Neighborhood
Park.

In City Council,

Sept. 16, 1991

Placed on file