

Report of Committee
June 4th 1867

The Joint Standing Committee on Roads and Bridges, who were ordered to examine and report upon the expediency of widening Main street, on the northward side, from a point near the junction of Mt Auburn and Main, to the junction of Harvard and Main streets, have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to offer the following report. Since the laying down of the Cambridge Horse Rail Road tract in Main st. the public have suffered great inconvenience, from the narrowness of the carriage way, between the tract and the row of trees on the outer line of the side walk, in this section.

It is only with the utmost care that a Rail Road car, and ~~a~~ carriage can pass each other when both are on the same side of the street. The greatest difficulty being on the north side. The absolute necessity of more room upon

Report of Committee
on widening main st

this side² of the street is
apparent to every one, conversant
with the locality. The whole
width of this part of Main st
is fifty (50) feet. The Rail
Road occupies sixteen (16) feet
of the central portion. The side
walk and trees seventeen (17)
feet eight (8) inches, leaving ~~for~~
~~carriage~~ for carriage travel
on the south side. Eight (8)
feet ten (10) inches, and on the
north side only seven (7) feet
six (6) inches. which is ~~obviously~~
obviously too narrow a space, through
which to drive a horse and carriage,
with safety or convenience.

There are two plans. the adoption
of either of which, would afford
relief, first. By taking up the
Rail Road tract on the northern
side of the street. Second, By
taking twelve (12) feet in width
of the land of the abutters ad-
joining the street on the same
side. thus making the
whole width sixty two (62) feet.
which is sufficient to accommo-
date the public traveling in
bath, cars and carriages.

The former would of necessity subject the Rail Road, and consequently the public, to detention and annoyance, and did not commend itself to the judgment of your committee. The latter plan however was favorably considered. The proposed erection of buildings on this land demands action on the part of this city council, in order that the city may be saved a large outlay of money in the future. The committee would not advise, that the work of removing the fence and trees, properly grading the street and such other labor as will be necessary to perfect this improvement, be done this year.

They would however recommend that land be taken as above described and also, that thirty cts per foot be allowed the abutters for the land so taken, and in addition that, two hundred (\$200) be given to Dr. Casswell for damage to his estate. And three hundred (\$300) to Mrs. Moring, on account of extra damage caused by shortening the line of her land on Quinsy street. They recommend the passage of the accompanying order.

For the committee John R. Merriam.

Report of 9
Committee on Roads and
Bridges -

June 31, 1867.