



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

November 7, 1994

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 1, regarding the feasibility of providing child care service for parents attending the City Council meetings, please be advised of the following:

I have reviewed the history of the offering of child care at regularly scheduled City Council meetings and specially called City Council hearings and committee meetings. In the case of the latter, even when significant public notice and advertisement of the availability of childcare has been made for specific meetings, utilization of the service has been minimal to none.

For regular City Council meetings, in the past requests were made to have a space available near the City Council chambers for parents to be with their children while they awaited the agenda item to come forward in which they wished to participate. It was requested that the space be equipped with a television monitor and some toys appropriate to a range of ages. The Ackermann Room was then wired for cable, a monitor was purchased and installed and a supply of toys and a chest were installed in the room. Utilization of this resource over the past few years has been minimal.

In response to this Awaiting Report, I am recommending that the existing toy and materials supply be replenished and that availability of the Ackermann Room for the purpose of providing parents and children a comfortable space to wait during City Council meetings be broadly advertised. After several months of advertising the availability of this resource, a review will be conducted to determine the adequacy of the arrangement, including getting feedback from users, and the results of this review and recommendations for any possible modifications will be submitted to the City Council.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev

Consent Agenda #11

15-484

Response to an Awaiting Report
Item No. One, regarding the feasibility of providing child care service for parents attending the City Council meetings.

*for original see
1994 City Manager
Request # 10.*

In City Council,

November 7, 1994

Placed on file