

April 17, 1996

96 APR 18 PM 2:15

To: The Cambridge City Councillors, Richard Rossi, Assistant City Manager and Rober Healy, City Manager

From: Thomas Bracken, (Irving St.) Robert Johnson, (Concord Ave) Douglas Lee, (Lexington Ave.) Susan Miller-Havens, (Brattle St.) Robert Travers, (Fulkerson St.) members of The Truck Traffic Advisory Committee

Re: Progress of The Truck Traffic Advisory Committee

We were appointed by the City Manager on Dec 26, 1995. Since that time we have had three meetings with Richard Rossi as chair. We are writing now to call to your attention concerns we have with the process and content of the committee. Attached you will find the manager's November letter of intent to you. (see p.2) In order to make our joint effort with the city successful we are requesting the following:

- Minutes of committee meetings be taken by an employee of the city clerk's office
- Minutes of the council's Oct 23 rd. hearing on this truck problem and letters filed in the clerk's office be distributed to members of the committee who did not attend the hearing
- Information on how other cities have handled this truck problem
- After studying other cities approaches, a re-evaluation of all the trucking routes and banned routes
- A thorough investigation and discussion of the legal precedents for a night time trucking ban on all city streets in Cambridge
- A comittment that the meetings begin on time, that we are not rushed to make decisions without adequate information, and that we meet frequently and long enough until the committee feels it can make informed recommendations

Susan Miller-Havens



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307

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CAMBRIDGE, MA.

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

November 1, 1995

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Following is a description of current and planned actions with respect to mitigating truck traffic impacts throughout Cambridge. As discussed at the recent City Council hearing, city staff are implementing a multifaceted planning and enforcement effort to address truck traffic issues in the City. Ongoing activities include:

- Data collection and analysis regarding truck traffic, as well as other motor vehicular traffic, at various locations in Cambridge
- Ongoing evaluation of legal and regulatory parameters for local action to mitigate truck traffic impacts
- Evaluation of potential new regulation of truck traffic at particular locations in the City and implementation of regulation, as appropriate
- Working with other metropolitan communities both directly and through the Metropolitan Area Planning Council to advance a regional truck study to be undertaken by the state, coordinate regulatory and enforcement efforts, and develop and evaluate regulatory, infrastructure improvement and policy
- Working with the state Central Transportation Planning Staff to ensure design of the regional truck study and computer model is applicable to addressing impacts in Cambridge
- Implementing traffic calming infrastructure and signal timing and phasing improvements to enhance safety and ease of travel for non-motorized transportation
- Aggressive pavement management program, including street resurfacing to improve travel and reduce noise and vibration from motor vehicle traffic

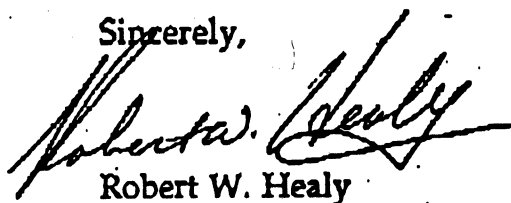
- Developing preferred routing for trucks servicing businesses in Cambridge
- Comprehensive enforcement in coordination with the Massachusetts State Police

In order to facilitate progress and public participation, I have appointed an advisory committee to work with city staff in addressing truck traffic concerns. The committee will be asked to focus on the following issues: (1) identifying and evaluating preferred routing for trucks traveling in Cambridge, (2) reviewing possible local restrictions on truck traffic, such as night time or absolute exclusions on residential streets, and (3) identifying desirable changes in state and federal legislation and regulation that would decrease the impact of truck traffic in Cambridge. In addition to city staff, the committee consists of the following Cambridge residents from across the city: Thomas Bracken, Yvonne Gittens, Robert Johnson, Dan Kanstroom, Douglas Lee, Scott Lewis, Geneva Malenfant, Susan Miller-Havens, and Robert Travers. In addition, Maura Smith of the Cambridge Office of Tourism and a representative of Star Market will serve on the committee to assist in addressing issues associated with private tour buses and delivery of goods in Cambridge. I believe that this committee will significantly advance the city's efforts to decrease and mitigate truck traffic throughout the City.

Additional staff efforts are also underway to further our progress on this issue that greatly impacts our quality of life in Cambridge. Among these activities are evaluation of general truck traffic and hazardous cargo restrictions in place in other communities, direct communication with trucking companies, bus companies and merchants operating in Cambridge, and expansion of the joint enforcement efforts of the Cambridge police, state police, and police in neighboring communities. I have also enclosed for your information a discussion of the issues concerning truck traffic regulation that the committee will consider and a summary evaluation of the structural capacity of Cambridge streets, both of which will be useful guidance for the work of the committee.

I look forward to reporting on the work of the committee early in the new year.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Healy

Enclosures

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Consent Communication #19 5-216

Communication was received from
Susan Miller Havens, transmitting
memorandum regarding the progress
of the Truck Traffic Advisory
Committee.

In City Council April 22, 1996

Referred to City Manager