



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307



10.

October 20, 1997

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 23, regarding a report on new speed-reducing apparatus along Concord Avenue, Traffic, Parking & Transportation Susan Clippinger and Assistant City Manager for Community Development Susan Schlesinger report the following:

The Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department will be removing the temporary barrels along Concord Avenue this fall to test two alternatives to improving pedestrian safety and decreasing the traffic speeds on this corridor. Both alternatives include new pavement markings and permanent raised islands. The two alternatives differ in the location of crosswalks at Birch and Fern Streets. In order to test the two alternatives, three stanchions will be used to outline the layout of each of the proposed islands. This will replicate the effect that the permanent raised islands will have on pedestrians and traffic. The operation of the pavement markings and stanchions will be evaluated through the winter and spring.

In the spring, the Department will work with local residents to evaluate the effectiveness of the two improvements. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Committees will also have the opportunity to evaluate the two alternatives and give input into how well they functioned. The alternative that works the best will be permanently installed in the summer of 1998.

As with all transportation improvement in the City, this project is evaluated for its impact on all modes of transportation including bicycles, MBTA buses, pedestrians and vehicles.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

Consent Agenda #10

S-634

Relative to Awaiting Report Item Number
Twenty-three, regarding a report on new
speed-reducing apparatus along Concord
Avenue.

In City Council October 20, 1997

PLACED ON FILE



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SUSAN B. SCHLESINGER,
*Assistant City Manager for
Community Development*

TO: Robert W. Healy
City Manager

FROM: Susan Schlesinger *SS*
Assistant City Manager for Community Development

RE: Council Order #22 Polaroid Testing

DATE: September 30, 1997

I have spoken to Thomas Maguire, Regional Planner, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Wetlands and Waterways. He is responsible for determinations related to Chapter 91 licenses. He has met with members of the Cambridgeport Neighborhood Initiative who raised a number of issues about definition of tidelines and other jurisdictional concerns. After reviewing these issues and examining Polaroid's current plan, Mr. Maguire has determined that no new Chapter 91 license is necessary.

In addition, I have spoken to Steven Johnson, Chief of Waste Site Management Section of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. He confirmed that no permits or additional testing are required by his Section. He suggestions related to additional testing were voluntary. He did note that the Department of Environmental Protection has the authority to inspect sites during construction and stop construction on any project if evidence of contamination occurs.

Polaroid has had two MWRA sewer permits. The first is a Sewer Use Discharge Permit which is required when a property owner discharges "industrial" wastewater into the MWRA system. Since Polaroid does not plan to discharge industrial wastewater, this permit was allowed to expire on August 15, 1996.

The second permit is a Direct Connection Permit described in the attached memo from Alex Strycky.



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

57 INMAN STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139 - TEL (617) 349-4680

October 1, 1997

To: Susan Schlesinger, Community Development Department

From: Alex Strysky, Conservation Commission *AS*

Re: Permitting issues related to the Polaroid project

Questions have been raised concerning whether the proposed Polaroid project must be reviewed under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), and whether permits are required from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA).

MEPA review is triggered if a project requires a state agency action listed in the MEPA regulations, and if certain thresholds listed in the MEPA regulations are exceeded. Based on my understanding of Polaroid's current proposal, no state permits which trigger MEPA review are required for this project. I researched the following aspects of the project:

1. MWRA permits: The MWRA has a direct connection permit on file for the site, and any changes to the volume or nature of flow entering the MWRA sewer line may have to be reviewed by MWRA staff. According to Philip Coleman of the MWRA, and to Doug Vigneau of the MEPA office, this permit would not trigger the need for MEPA review.
2. Curb-cuts onto Memorial Drive: Polaroid has not proposed either a new curb-cut, nor an alteration of an existing one, onto Memorial Drive. Therefore, no curb-cut permit from the MDC is needed. Had a curb-cut permit from the MDC been needed, then MEPA review would have been triggered.

I also reviewed the MEPA thresholds in regard to other known aspects of Polaroid's proposal. While there are thresholds listed in the MEPA regulations concerning demolition of historic structures, vehicle trip generation, parking spaces, building height, tidelands, and other issues incidental to the site, none of these trigger MEPA review in this case because none of the state permits listed in the regulations are needed.

Please contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Polaroid has had two MWRRA sewer permits. The first is a sewer use Discharge Permit which is required when a property owner discharges "industrial" wastewater into the MWRRA system. Since Polaroid does not plan to discharge industrial wastewater, ~~it allows~~ this permit was allowed to expire on August 15, 1996.

The second permit is a direct connection permit described in the attached memo from Alex Stryshy.



MAY 5/10/1

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

October 1, 1997

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager

From: Bob Bersani, Inspectional Services

RE: Council Order No. 22 dtd. 9/29/97: Concerns on the Polaroid Project Related to Asbestos and any other Permitting Requirements.

In response to this Council, a single permit has been issued to date on August 20, 1997 for a \$2.6 million renovation of building #1 at 784 Memorial Drive. In a letter dtd. 9/25/97 from the Cambridgeport Neighborhood Initiative(CNI) to the City Council a statement was made that this permit was incomplete and should not have been issued because the debris disposal(identification of dumpsite) part of the permit had not been filled out and a large project affidavit had not been submitted. Concerning debris disposal, State law allows for this information to be submitted within two months of the issue date of the permit and the applicant has submitted an affidavit stating that this information will be submitted within that required timeframe. Concerning the reference to a "large project affidavit", it is unclear as to what is being referred to. The necessary affidavits required by ISD, including cost and control of construction operations have been filed by the applicant and included with the permit application.

In that same letter from CNI, it was stated that no demolition or asbestos removal permits were filed for this building. Concerning a demolition permit, none is required as the building is undergoing alteration, not demolition. Although no asbestos permits were filed for this building, the contractor understands that, should asbestos removal be necessary or desired, that the necessary permits will have to be obtained.

In order to accomplish asbestos removal, a permit is required from ISD and certain State agencies must be notified. Specifically, the DEP must be notified on their format at least ten working days prior to the abatement. Also, the Department of Labor and Industries must be notified, using the same reporting format, ten days prior to abatement projects greater than three linear or square feet.

For demolition of buildings, in addition to the demolition permit required by the City, DEP(Air Quality Division) requires notification on their format 10 days prior to work being performed. This notification applies to industrial, commercial, institutional, or residential(greater than 20 units) buildings.

Very truly yours,

R. R. Bersani
R. R. Bersani

cc: Susan Schlesinger



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
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13.

October 20, 1997

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 20, regarding a permitting requirements on the Polaroid site, received from Assistant City Manager for Community Development Susan Schlesinger, Conservation Commission Director Alex Strycky and Inspectional Services Commissioner Robert Bersani.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
attachment

Consent Agenda #13

S-635

Relative to Awaiting Report Item Number
Twenty, regarding permitting requirements
on the Polaroid site.

In City Council October 20, 1997

PLACED ON FILE