

PUBLIC HEARING

ON

TRUCK TRAFFIC

at
Cambridge City Hall

October 23, 1995

I, Lynda N. Hoffman, residing at 657 Main Street in Cambridge since May, 1995, use a walker called a safety rolling devise which enables me to walk instead of using a wheelchair. My equipment weighs 15 pounds and is not easy to pick up at a moments notice, but it does help me with my balance and instability due to cerebral palsy and unstable ankles. I also do not have fingers on my left hand. I am divulging this information to you to press upon you the need I have for this special equipment.

I rely on perfectly designed curbs cuts minus cracks and thresholds and wide enough side walks minus debris, trash barrels and pot holes or uneven cement for a continuous path of travel. I also manage to get all around Cambridge, exploring, shopping and having fun. I also use public mainline transportation or my own feet to get around. I rely on paratransit very little to get around and about.

Construction on the roads and City buildings impose another dimension to this scenario.

I stressed the above information to let you know that I MUST use the street to do my getting around. Another issue that forces me to use the street is when curb cuts are blocked by parked cars or bikes tied to a pole near the curb cut. Believe me, I prefer the sidewalk as I do Value my Life and Limb. Cars are nerve wracking enough when they come to close or take a right on red or pull out without looking. With trucks, I am in dire fear for my life. The drivers act as if they own the road and some of them are absolutely rude. They also park in bus way, as do cars. This is a double jeopardy since the bus driver can't deploy the lift on to the sidewalk and getting off in the middle of the street puts me in direct line with on coming traffic. This scenario is especially true along Mass. Ave. and Cambridge Street the two streets I frequently get on and off buss. Harvard Ave area does not have that many problems with bus ways.

We really have two issues being disabled, the noise and speed of the trucks on our roads and cutting this down, but also improving the ACCESS in and around Cambridge for people with disabilities

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
OCT 26 11 10 24
CAMBRIDGE MA.

LYNDA N. HOFFMAN
657 Main Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
617/491-535300

October 21, 1995

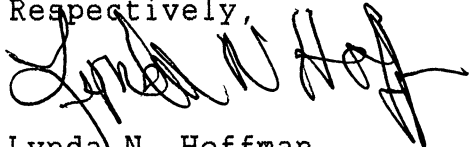
City Clerk
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA02139

Dear City Clerk,

Thank you for inviting me to the public hearing regarding Truck Traffic in the City of Cambridge. Not only am I a new resident who has the same concerns as every one else, I also have special safety concerns a I am a person with a mobility disability.

Please include my testimony included in this letter as it speaks of my special concerns. I would have loved to participate at the hearing, but my schedule does not allow for it.

Respectively,



Lynda N. Hoffman

cc: Kathleen Leahy Born, City Councillor

Michael Meuhe, Diector, Commision on Persons with Disabilities

Consent Communication #4

S/344

Communication was received from
Lynda N. Hoffman, 657 Main Street
transmitting concern regarding
truck traffic in the City, as a new
resident and as a person with a mobility
disability.

In City Council October 30, 1995

Placed on file