

Johnson / "exactly"

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The Environment Committee conducted a public hearing on Tuesday January 3, 1989 beginning at 7:10 P.M. in the auditorium of the M.E. Fitzgerald School located on Rindge Avenue.

The purpose of this hearing was two-fold: 1) To review the City's response to the Alewife Brook Parkway project, and, 2) to receive a status report on recycling.

Vice Mayor Alice K. Wolf, Chair of the above Committee, convened the hearing, began the Committee's discussion with the response by City Manager Robert W. Healy to John P. De Villars, Secretary Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and James A. Walsh, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration regarding the Route 2/ Alewife Brook Parkway Project Change.

Vice Mayor Wolf stressed the need for the response to be expeditiously distributed to the principals outlining the City's concern with Secretary Saloucci's "Preferred" Alternative on this proposed roadway project.

The Committee heard from Wendy B. Jacobs, Esquire of Foley Hoag and Elliot who clarified some of the Committee's concerns over the language used in the response.

Traffic and Parking George Teso and Richard Easter, Chief Project Planner from Community Development, both offered some technical changes to the response with regards to congestion points, Yates Pond and pedestrian safety impact.

A suggestion was made to incorporate the number of area residents in the response to further illustrate the potential impact on the quality of life and to add credence to the pedestrian safety impact issue.

City Manager Healy stated that the City's response with edited suggestions would be made and distributed in hand to the principals on Friday January 6, 1989.

The Committee then turned its attention to the matter of recycling in the City of Cambridge.

At this time City Manager Healy recommended that the Committee hear first from officials of the Commonwealth on the state perspective and then he would outline the city's perspective on this issue.

The Committee was informed that a Notice of Responsibility (NOR) was sent to C.J. Mabardy after some hazardous waste was found on the site. The hazardous waste detected included petroleum and heavy metal substances. The state is preparing to investigate the site to determine the level of contaminants in the soil and that estimates for Phase I of this process would take <sup>approximately</sup> two to six months and Phase II would take approximately four months. The state informed the Committee that the site would be cleaned up regardless of <sup>whether or not</sup> the state was to build a recycling facility on this site or not.

Councillor Russell repeated to the

State officials present of the neighborhood's rejection of both a recycling facility and transfer facility on the site. It is the neighborhood's opinion that only one facility be on the site, not both.

State officials also stated that other considerations might be taken into account, such as another site, to move the recycling program into reality.

A series of questions and responses were asked and given regarding what other communities are presently doing about recycling. Present estimates include some 100 drop off and curb side programs are in effect in other communities.

Vice Mayor Wolf questioned the idea of composting as it relates to the recycling effort. City Manager Healy responded that Public Works Commissioner William Sommers and Mrs. Ruth Birkhoff were examining this concept and a possible pilot program might be undertaken in the city owned property in Waltham and Weston.

City Manager Healy noted in his remarks to the Committee that the city is actively exploring the recycling issue and that an interim recycling ordinance could be ready for City Council consideration within the next 6-8 weeks.

The hearing was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

For the Committee.

AKW, Vice Mayor  
Chair.

In City Council January 9, 1989

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Councillor Russell repeated to the State officials present the neighborhood's rejection of both a recycling facility and transfer facility on the site. It is the neighborhood's opinion that only one facility be on the site, not both.

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For the Committee,

Alice K. Wolf, Vice-Mayor  
Chair.

7. S-25

Comm. from John E. Flynn, Deputy City Clerk,  
transmitting the report of Vice-Mayor Alice  
K. Wolf, Chair, Committee on Environment Re:  
the City's response to the Alewife Brook  
Parkway project & a status report on recycling.

In City Council,

January 9, 1989

1-9-89

Placed on file.