



A.R. #10

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
City Hall Annex Inman & Broadway EXTENSION 344

To James L. Sullivan, City Manager

From Community Development and Transportation Forum **Date** March 28, 1979

Subject Airline Flight Path Noise Problem
Council Order No. 7 of February 5, 1979

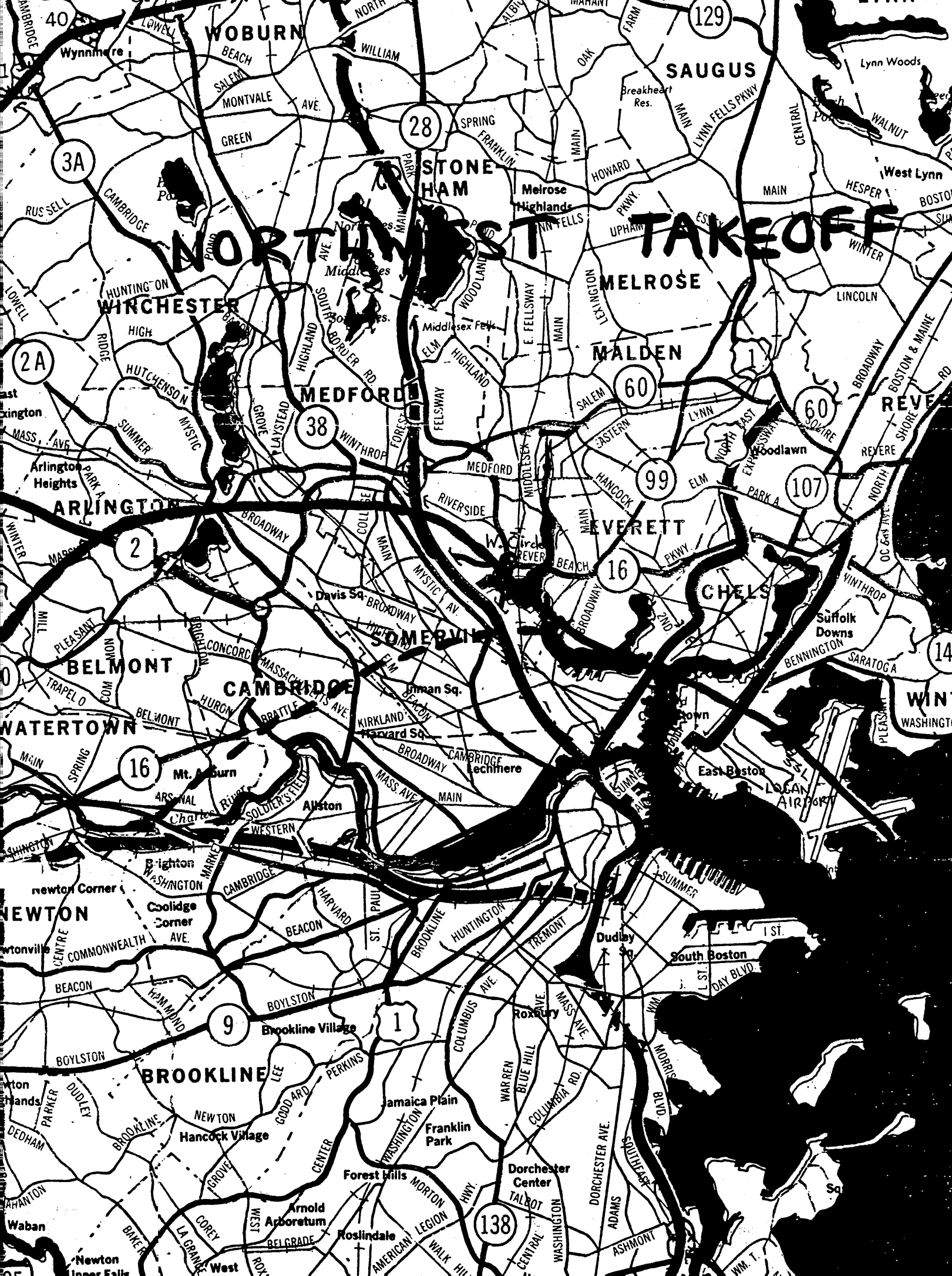
When the New year began, Cambridge residents noted a significant increase in flyovers and noise from jets leaving Logan Airport. We can report that, according to Donna Berman of the Massport Noise Abatement Office, this particular problem was due to a misunderstanding that was rectified in late February. There should not be a recurrence of this noise situation, but violations by individual pilots may continue, as well as noise from legitimate operations north or south of Cambridge.

This particular noise problem peaked during the cold wave of early February, amplified by the frigid air and caused by the constant northwest winds which necessitated the use of Runway 33L for an extended period. This takeoff pattern requires planes heading southwest, the majority of Logan traffic, to follow the Mystic River out past Wellington Circle in Medford (solid line on attached map) before starting the turn to the south.

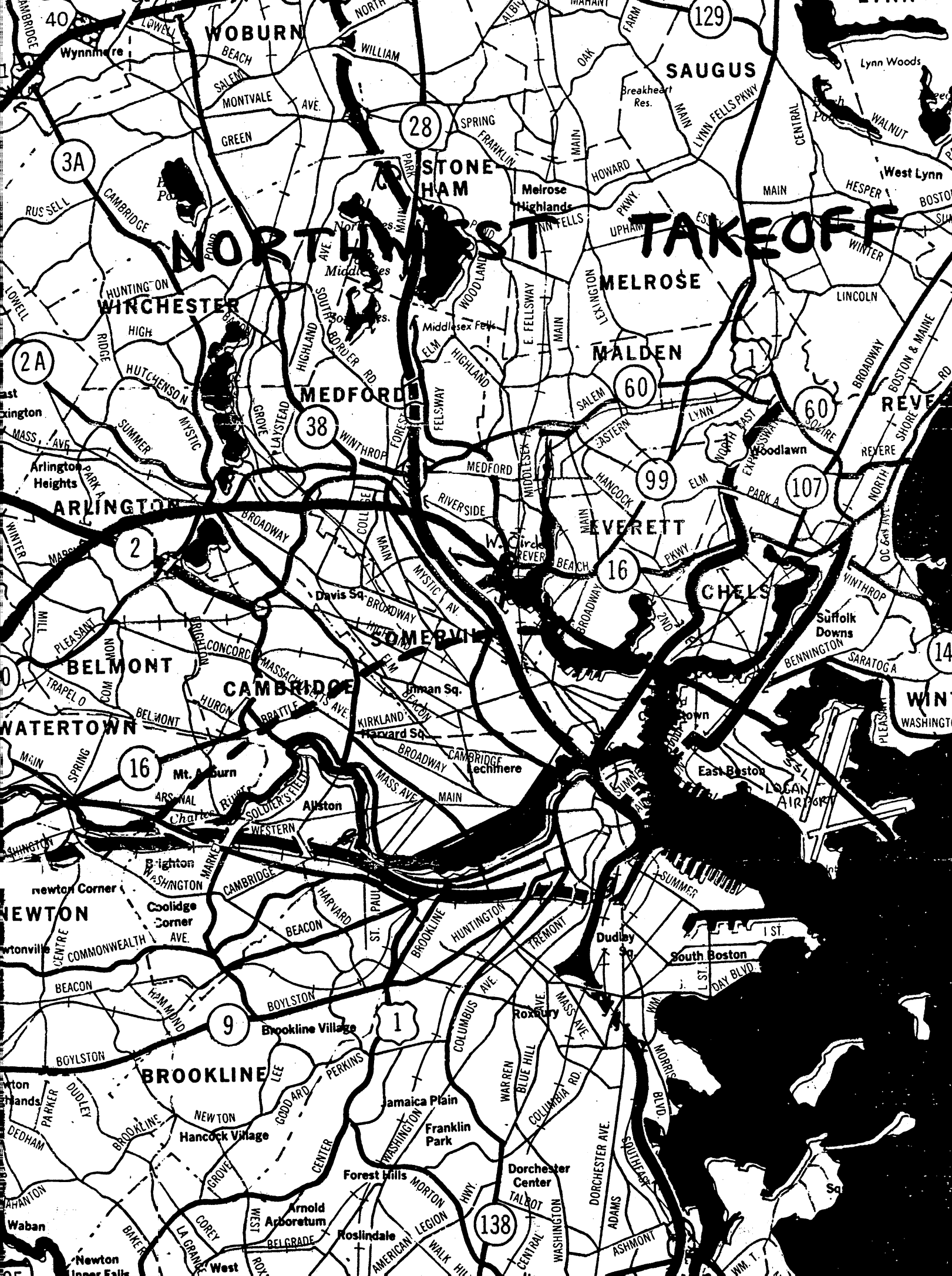
By contrast, other runways required planes to reach a 2500 foot altitude before turning. This was recently increased to 3000 feet, but controllers interpreted this change to include all flightpaths including the northwest pattern. This allowed planes to turn sooner than they had previously done (dashed line on map), taking them over the heart of Cambridge and creating the intolerable noise problem.

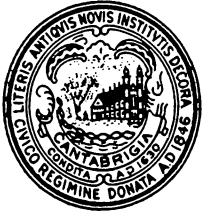
This resulted in a flood of complaints and calls, according to Ms. Berman, which brought the misunderstanding to light and lead to the restoration of the original Wellington Circle turning point for all planes on this pattern.

In summary, the problem was apparently the result of a misunderstanding rather than the deliberate testing of a new policy, and as such shouldn't be repeated. Individual problems will be studied as time allows, but citizens should get results by calling the Massport Noise Abatement Office at 567-3333.



NORTHWEST TAKEOFF





CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

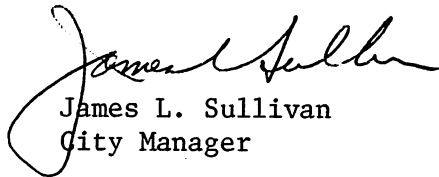
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

April 2, 1979

To the Honorable, the City Council:

With respect to Awaiting Report Item No. 10 relative to Logan Airport flights over Cambridge, enclosed please find copy of a report from the Community Development Department and the Transportation Forum.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf
Enc.

S-176

Response to Awaiting Report No. 10 re: Logan
Airport flights over Cambridge.

In City Council,

April 2, 1979

4/2/1979

-Placed on File-