

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 349-4300
FAX. 349-4307

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

April 12, 1993

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #18 regarding the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks, please be advised of the following: Sidewalks need to be kept clear of snow and ice to ensure pedestrian safe passage. Enforcement of this ordinance (section 12.16.110 of the Cambridge Municipal Code) is critical to ensure this goal, however, the City recognizes senior citizens and other residents may need assistance in clearing off sidewalks.

The Department of Human Services, in conjunction with the Council on Aging and the Commission for Persons with Disabilities, has developed a policy for snow and ice removal for elders and disabled persons that has been in place for the past few years. In this program, individual addresses are placed on a snow removal exception list (totaling 14 this year). The eligibility criteria for participation in the program are as follows:

Individuals must be over 60 years old or disabled, and unable to shovel;

Individuals must live in a single family home, except in special cases where the tenant is also elderly and rental income is low; and

Individuals must have income that falls within the State eligibility guidelines for home care services. The current guidelines are \$15,000 for a single person or \$21,230 for a couple.

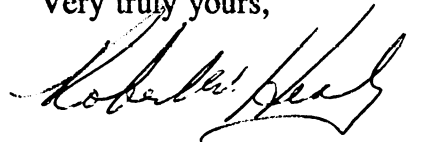
This program is widely announced. At the beginning of the winter season, announcements are put in the Chronicle, TAB, Newslines (the Council on Aging monthly newsletter) and on cable television, and a fact sheet on elder services, which includes information on this policy, is distributed to all elders in Cambridge and elder service providers.

In addition, the Department of Human Services serves the role of hooking up elders and persons with disabilities who call the office asking for assistance, with area youth who shovel sidewalks.

Enforcement of the Snow and Ice Removal Ordinance by Traffic or Parking Control Officers is being explored. As this constitutes an additional job duty for officers, it needs to be negotiated with Local 195. We are planning to discuss this in current negotiations.

In Fiscal Year 1993 through March 23, 1993, the Department of Public Works issued a total of 718 citations. These citations were issued to Cambridge residents for failure to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks and for placing barriers on the street to reserve parking spaces.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #5

S-167

Awaiting Report Item No. 18 regarding
the removal of snow and ice from side-
walks.

*for original order see
City Manager Requests 1993
27 of 2/1/93*

In City Council,

April 12, 1993

Placed on file