

City of Cambridge

23.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 15, 1997

MAYOR RUSSELL
 VICE MAYOR BORN
 COUNCILLOR DAVIS
 COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
 COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
 COUNCILLOR REEVES
 COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
 COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: The City Council has repeatedly expressed its concern over short crossing intervals at traffic intersections which do not provide ample time for elders and other mobility impaired residents to cross safely, and;

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Traffic and Parking Department submitted reports, both dated November 25, 1997, to the City Council in response to Order # 162 of September 8, 1997 and Order #56 of October 27, 1997. which questioned the crossing times at the Walden Street and Massachusetts Avenue intersection and the Walden and Sherman Street intersection, respectively, and;

WHEREAS: Both reports from the Traffic and Parking Department state that the total crossing times at each intersection is set to 25 seconds to accommodate crossing pedestrians despite the fact that the Walden and Massachusetts Avenue intersection is twice as large as the Walden and Sherman Street intersection, now therefore be it;

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby abandons its unreasonable policy of requesting appropriate crossing times at individual intersections and report back tot he City Council on their feasibility:

1. Evaluate and report on the possibility of expanding Sherman Street to four lanes of traffic or reducing Massachusetts Avenue by two lanes of traffic in order to match their crossing times.
2. Commission a study to determine if the average stride of Massachusetts Avenue pedestrians is twice as large as Sherman Street pedestrian.
3. Evaluate and report on the feasibility of installing a rest area in the median strip of Massachusetts Avenue, and be it further;

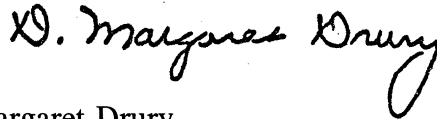
RESOLVED: That the City Council express its willingness to consider any additional alternatives to this extremely perplexing problem if such innovative strategies exist.

In City Council December 15, 1997.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

23,

December 8, 1997

MAYOR RUSSELL

- Whereas: The City Council has repeatedly expressed its concern over short crossing intervals at traffic intersections which do not provide ample time for elders and other mobility impaired residents to cross safely, and;
- Whereas: The Cambridge Traffic and Parking Department submitted reports, both dated November 25, 1997, to the City Council in response to Order #162 of September 8, 1997 and Order # 56 of October 27, 1997, which questioned the crossing times at the Walden Street and Massachusetts Avenue intersection and the Walden and Sherman Street intersection, respectively, and;
- Whereas: Both reports from the Traffic and Parking Department state that the total crossing times at each intersection is set to 25 seconds to accommodate crossing pedestrians despite the fact that the Walden and Massachusetts Avenue intersection is twice as large as the Walden and Sherman Street intersection, now therefore be it;
- Resolved: That the City Council hereby abandons its unreasonable policy of requesting appropriate crossing times at individual intersections, and be it further;
- Resolved: That the City Council request the City Manager to consider the following alternatives to setting appropriate crossing times as individual intersections and report back to the City Council on their feasibility:
1. Evaluate and report on the possibility of expanding Sherman Street to four lanes of traffic or reducing Massachusetts Avenue by two lane of traffic in order to match their crossing times.
 2. Commission a study to determine if the average stride of Massachusetts Avenue pedestrians is twice as large as Sherman Street pedestrians.
 3. Evaluate and report on the feasibility of installing a rest area in the median strip of Massachusetts Avenue, and be it further;
- Resolved: That the City Council express its willingness to consider any additional alternatives to this extremely perplexing problem if such innovative strategies exist.



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

November 25, 1997

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Council Order #56 of 10/27/97, regarding lengthening the time allotted for "walk signals" across Massachusetts Avenue at the Rindge Avenue, Walden Street, and Porter Square Intersections, please be advised of the following:

At the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue with Walden Street and Massachusetts Avenue with Rindge Avenue, the walk light is at least 12 seconds and the "Don't Walk" light is 12 seconds. This is sufficient time to cross Massachusetts Avenue and to further increase the walk time would adversely effect vehicular traffic with no substantial benefit for pedestrians. At Porter Square, the Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department is presently undertaking a major long range review of the entire intersection. Short term solutions to issues in the intersection will include pedestrian timing and will be instituted in the Spring.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager



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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

November 25, 1997

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Council Order #162 of 9/8/97, regarding improving pedestrian crossing safety along Sherman Street in the area of Walden Street and Danehy Park, please be advised of the following:

The Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department has lengthened the "Walk" time to 15 seconds and the flashing "Don't Walk" time to 10 seconds at the pedestrian crossing on Sherman Street at Danehy Park. In addition, a new state of the art red signal, which is much brighter and which will catch the attention of the vehicle driver has been installed on this signal.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager



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CM-848

Consnet Order #23

Mayor Russell re: Short crossing intervals
at the traffic intersections which do not
provide ample time for elders and other
mobility impaired residents to cross
safely.

In City Council December 15, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED