



6.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

January 27, 2003

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 03-05, regarding a report on changing the time frame for posting parking spaces for moving vans, Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger reports the following:

Approximately 3,887 street occupancy permits are issued for moving vans each year. The permit program was created to provide space for moving vans so they would not be blocking travel lanes or obstructing emergency vehicles.

Applicants for moving van permits are required to apply at least three days in advance of the move. Traffic, Parking & Transportation issues the permit, prepares and posts the signs 48-hours in advance. The signs are checked daily to make sure they are not removed. Upon completion of the permit (move), the signs are removed. If a permit is issued that begins on a Monday, the signs are posted on the previous Friday. Only at meters is the advance posting relaxed to less than 48 hours. Approximately, 80 hours of staff time is spent per week posting, checking and removing street permit signs for all permits issued, 75% of which are for moving vans.

Posting moving van permits one week in advance is not viable for a few reasons. First, it is already difficult to get people to apply 3 days in advance and usually the mover is already scheduled and cannot be changed. Second, people tend to not like the signs and remove them if posted too far in advance even though the effective date is clearly marked.

Residents should not leave their vehicles parked on a street for an extended period without checking for moving vans or other emergency postings. In this year's resident parking information brochure we made a special effort to warn people not to leave their car on the street for an extended period without checking or having a friend check it regularly. There are many circumstances in which a resident's car may be towed. Traffic, Parking & Transportation and the Department of Public Works issue permits for moving vans, dumpsters, tree work, cranes, utility repairs, opening manholes, building construction and for emergency repairs. This is in addition to street sweeping and snow emergency parking bans.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

S-26

Consent Agenda #6

**Awaiting Report Item
Number 03-05**, regarding a
report on changing the time
frame for posting parking
spaces for moving vans.

In City Council January 27, 2003

PLACED ON FILE.