

November 16, 2000

MEMORANDUM

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager
From: Susan Clippinger, Director TP&T

Re: Council Order Awaiting Report on Truck Traffic on Gore Street

The Parking, Traffic and Transportation Department (TP&T) has undertaken a number of efforts to address the issues associated with truck traffic in the City of Cambridge. As a result of resident complaints, the City conducted citywide truck traffic counts in 1998 and 1999. This count program was the source of the truck volumes (600 plus per day) reported at a City Council Transportation Subcommittee meeting on September 13, 2000 and further discussed at a recent regional truck hearing on October 3, 2000.

In regards to safety concerns on Gore Street, MassHighway crash data indicate that there were no truck-related crashes during the three-year period of 1995 through 1997.

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) and MassHighway are currently co-sponsoring a regional truck study to resolve issues related to truck traffic in Cambridge, Somerville and surrounding communities. Through a series of public meetings and meetings with the study's Technical Subcommittee, the City has consistently identified the high truck volumes on Gore Street as a problem. The study is currently in the process of modeling several alternatives for reducing truck traffic in the study area. One of those alternatives is a truck ban on Cardinal Medeiros Avenue, which in turn reduces through moves on Warren, Lambert and Gore Streets. According to preliminary results, this ban removes 640 trucks each day from Cardinal Medeiros, 400 from Warren Street, and 175 from Gore Street. It should be noted that both the truck count and the modeled reduction on Gore Street are located at the city line with Somerville where the largest truck volumes are located. That location is also used by trucks serving businesses on that end of Gore Street. Truck access to these businesses would be maintained if this alternative were implemented.

When the regional truck study begins to produce final results, TP&T will advocate any suggested alternatives that appear to reduce the impact of truck traffic on residents in Cambridge. Please contact me at 349-4745 if there are any questions.



3.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

December 4, 2000

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 00-82, regarding a report on safety issues presented by the daily truck volume on Gore Street, received from Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Healy", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment



2000 Things 2 Do in 2000

Communication from Robert W. Healy,
City Manager, relative to Awaiting
Report Item Number 00-82 regarding
a report on safety issues presented
by the daily truck volume on Gore St.

In City Council December 4, 2000

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