



City of Cambridge

19.

Calendar Item # 3

IN CITY COUNCIL

~~May 16, 1994~~

May 23, 1994

COUNCILLOR BORN
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL

WHEREAS: The imminent loss of the Stop and Shop will cause inestimable hardship and inconvenience to the 96,000 people of Cambridge and will be most acutely felt in the Cambridgeport and Riverside Neighborhood; and

WHEREAS: The management of the Stop and Shop has repeatedly stated that only one site plan and store layout will make profitable and practical their building of a new "Superstore" at this site; and

WHEREAS: This site plan and store layout are physically possible only if 130 delivery trucks per week are allowed to exit onto Memorial Drive, an MDC parkway located on an MDC parkland; and

WHEREAS: The Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Cambridge and the Stop and Shop for the sale of Riverside Road for \$1,000,000 is contingent upon the MDC granting an unprecedented exemption to the Stop and Shop to allow approximately 130 trucks per week to exit the store site onto Memorial Drive and proceed to River Street; and

WHEREAS: The MDC has been unwavering in its refusal to allow such an exemption because it would be contradictory with the designation of this land as parkland, and further because it would obligate them to grant similar easements elsewhere on Memorial Drive and other scenic parkways under their jurisdiction, and because these actions could obligate them to rebuild such roadways to meet Federal Highway standards for unrestricted highways; and

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts State Legislature, at this point, for various reasons, appears to be unwilling to challenge or override this long-standing policy of the MDC; and

WHEREAS: In light of this seemingly insoluble situation and in light of the community's tremendous need for a food store at this location or another nearby location, let us not overlook the fact that the City of Cambridge has recently granted extraordinary tax relief to businesses it judges are good for the City and of long term benefit to its economy; therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to demonstrate the City's commitment to the continued operation of a food store at this site by entering into renewed negotiations with the management of the Stop and Shop which will include but not be limited to offers of a substantial reduction in the purchase price of Riverside Road and/or substantial tax incentives either to the Stop and Shop or to any purchaser of the land who will guarantee operating a food store on this site for no less than 30 years and will abide by the MDC restrictions regarding trucks on their roadways, and will actively work with the City of Cambridge to develop a traffic mitigation plan for the Cambridgeport area.

**NO ACTION TAKEN - PLACED ON FILE UNDER RULE
NINETEEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL RULES.**



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WHEREAS: The Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Cambridge and the Stop and Shop for the sale of Riverside Road for \$1,000,000 is contingent upon the MDC granting an unprecedented exemption to the Stop and Shop to allow approximately 130 trucks per week to exit the store site onto Memorial Drive and proceed to River Street; and

WHEREAS: The MDC has been unwavering in its refusal to allow such an exemption because it would be contradictory with the designation of this land as parkland, and further because it would obligate them to grant similar easements elsewhere on Memorial Drive and other scenic parkways under their jurisdiction, and because these actions could obligate them to rebuild such roadways to meet Federal Highway standards for unrestricted highways; and

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CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR WALSH

BORN - orders for 519

19.

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Whereas: The imminent loss of the Stop and Shop will cause inestimable hardship and inconvenience to the 96,000 people of Cambridge and will be most acutely felt in the Cambridgeport and Riverside neighborhoods.

Whereas: The management of the Stop and Shop has repeatedly stated that only one site plan and store layout will make profitable and practical their building of a new "Superstore" at this site.

Whereas: This site plan and store layout are physically possible only if 130 delivery trucks per week are allowed to exit onto Memorial Drive, an MDC parkway located on MDC parkland

Whereas: The Purchase and Sale agreement between the City of Cambridge and the Stop and Shop for the sale of Riverside Road for \$1,000,000 is contingent upon the MDC granting an unprecedented exemption to the Stop and Shop to allow approximately 130 trucks per week to exit the store site onto Memorial Drive and proceed to ~~the River Street, bridge across the Charles River.~~

Whereas: The MDC has been unwavering in its refusal to allow such an exemption because it would be contradictory with the designation of this land as parkland, and further because it would obligate them to grant similar easements elsewhere on Memorial Drive and on other scenic parkways under their jurisdiction, and because these actions could obligate them to rebuild such roadways to meet Federal Highway standards for unrestricted highways.

Whereas: The Massachusetts State Legislature, at this point, for various reasons, appears to be unwilling to challenge or override this long-standing policy of the MDC.

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Ordered: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to demonstrate the City's commitment to the continued operation of a food store at this site by entering into renewed negotiations with the management of the Stop and Shop which will include but not be limited to offers of a substantial reduction in the purchase price for Riverside Road and/or substantial tax incentives either to the

Stop and Shop or to any purchaser of the land who will guarantee operating a food store on this site for no less than 30 years and will abide by the MDC restrictions regarding trucks on their roadways, and will actively work with the City of Cambridge to develop a traffic mitigation plan for the Cambridgeport area.



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Russell

Call # 3

Consent Order #19

S-240

Councillor Born re: Hardship of Stop and Shop
closing.

In City Council May 16, 1994

~~Consent Order~~

Charter right exercised
by Councillor Walsh

5/23/94 - No action taken

Placed on file

Under Rule Ninetien
Of the City Council
Rules.