



City of Cambridge

31.

IN CITY COUNCIL
May 1, 1995

COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Crossing Massachusetts Avenue at Porter Square on foot is a perilous adventure, experienced by hundreds of people every day; and

WHEREAS: Various committees and City staff have analyzed this problem over the last five years and virtually everyone agrees that a variety of problems exist at this complex intersection; and

WHEREAS: The optimal solutions to some of these complicated problems may involve costly construction, but some of the problems are simpler and may have solutions which can be implemented immediately without waiting for a lengthy study or comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS: One such problem is that the length of the WALK cycle across Massachusetts Avenue at the fork of Somerville Avenue is not sufficient enough to allow anyone but a runner the time to cross from the shopping center to the opposite side without being stranded in the narrow island in the middle of Mass Ave. This presents a very dangerous situation for anyone pushing a stroller or baby carriage because there is no way to shelter the carriage from the rushing traffic which includes many heavy trucks approaching at high speed; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Department of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to take immediate steps to increase the length of this walk cycle to allow a pedestrian to comfortably cross the full width of Mass Ave. within the time of a single cycle, even if this means a decrease in the efficiency of moving automobile traffic.

In City Council May 1, 1995

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Councillor Born

Orders for 5-1

31

#1

Whereas: Crossing Massachusetts Avenue at Porter Square on foot is a perilous adventure, experienced by hundreds of people every day

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Whereas: The optimal solutions to some of these complicated problems may involve costly construction, but some of the problems are simpler and may have simpler solutions which can be implemented immediately without waiting for a lengthy study or comprehensive plan, and

Whereas: One such problem is that the length of the WALK cycle across Mass Avenue at the fork of Sommerville Avenue is not sufficient to allow anyone but a runner the time to cross from the shopping center to the opposite side without being stranded in the narrow island in the middle of Mass Ave. This presents a very dangerous situation for anyone pushing a stroller or baby carriage because there is no way to shelter the carriage from the rushing traffic which includes many heavy trucks approaching at high speed. Therefore be it

Ordered: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Department of Traffic and Transportation to take immediate steps to increase the length of this walk cycle to allow a pedestrian to comfortably cross the full width of Mass Ave within the time of a single cycle, even if this means a decrease in the efficiency of moving automobile traffic.

Order #2

82

Ordered: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide an update on what progress has been made by City Staff and Committees in addressing the problem of the closing of the Lowell Institute, and furthermore, whether the Lowell Institute could be approached to participate in our "Junior College" planning.



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Duehay Jellucio Russell
Sullivan Triantafillon

CM 785

Consent Order #31

Councillor Born re: Increase the length of
the "WALK: cycle across Mass Ave at the
fork of Somerville Avenue.

In City Council May 1, 1995

Order adopted