

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Argeo Paul Cellucci
Governor

Jane Swift
Lieutenant Governor

Kevin J. Sullivan
Secretary & MBTA Chairman

Robert H. Prince, Jr.
General Manager

November 10, 2000

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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Mr. Robert W. Healy, City Manager
City of Cambridge
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

Thank you for your letter dated October 26, 2000 regarding bus service in Cambridge. Your letter and the City Council Order that was attached to your letter requested information on planned service changes on Route 72 (Huron Avenue—Harvard Station via Concord Avenue) and other planned service changes on Cambridge bus routes:

Traffic congestion is increasing in Cambridge and throughout the MBTA service area. As a result, bus schedules must be adjusted accordingly. Where there are high passenger volumes, additional vehicles are added when resources permit. We will be adding vehicles on several routes serving Cambridge beginning in January. These include:

- Route 1 Harvard—Dudley via Mass Avenue (Weekdays and Saturdays)
- Route 66 Harvard—Dudley via Harvard Street (Weekdays and Saturdays)
- Route 71 Watertown Square—Harvard Square via Mt. Auburn Street (Sundays);
- Route 73 Waverley Square—Harvard Square via Mt. Auburn Street (Sundays)
- Route 86 Sullivan Station—Cleveland Circle via Harvard (Weekdays)

In cases where traffic congestion causes trips to run late and passenger volumes are insufficient to require a bus to be added to the route, we must provide our bus drivers with more time. This allows the route to be operated safely and on time, but the result is a less frequent service. The resources that are assigned to the route remain constant.

My staff is modifying the schedule of three Cambridge bus routes to provide slightly less frequent service at specific times when traffic congestion impacts the on-time performance of the route. These routes are:

- Route 72 Huron Ave—Harvard Square. Weekday morning rush hour service will operate every 20 minutes instead of every 15 minutes.

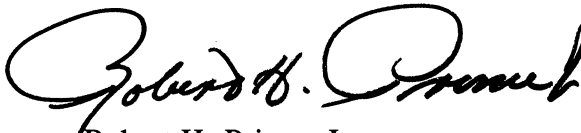
Robert W. Healy
November 10, 2000
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- Route 69 Lechmere—Harvard Square via Cambridge Street. Weekday afternoon rush hour service will operate every 20 minutes instead of every 17 minutes.
- Route 77 Arlington Heights—Harvard Square. Saturday service currently operates every 8 to 12 minutes depending upon time of day. Saturday service will operate every 10 to 12 minutes depending upon time of day.

Again, we believe that overcrowding will be somewhat reduced by these recommended service adjustments. We do however, need to be cognizant of the fact that daily traffic congestion has a direct effect on our ability to deliver on time service.

Thank you very much for your letter and for your continued support of public transportation in Cambridge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert H. Prince, Jr.", with a stylized, cursive script.

Robert H. Prince, Jr.
General Manager



6.

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. 00-104, regarding a report on the MBTA route 72 bus service, received from General Manager of the MBTA Robert H. Prince, Jr.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy".

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment



2000 Things 2 Do in 2000

SY20.1

Communication from Robert W. Healy,
City Manager, relative to Awaiting
Report Item Number 00-104 regarding
a report on the MBTA route 72 bus
service.

In City Council December 4, 2000

PLACED ON FILE

See Order #17