



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 498-9011

FAX. 868-8159

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

October 15, 1990

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Attached, please find a response from William Sommers, Commissioner of Public Works, relative to Awaiting Report Item No. 59, regarding conditions of the bridge on Walden Street.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev
enclosure



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
COUNCIL ORDER CORRESPONDENCE

TO: ROBERT HEALY, CITY MANAGER

FROM: WILLIAM SOMMERS, COMMISSIONER, DPW

DATE: 9/27/90

SUBJECT: COUNCIL ORDER #(S): 80

DATE: 9/10/90

COUNCILLOR: Myers

DESCRIPTION OF PROBLEM: Improving the conditions of the bridge on Walden Street.

DEPARTMENT ANSWER: With respect to this council order the Department has been in frequent contact with the Mass DPW but with little results. The Department, through its Division of Parks and Forestry, did cut down the weeds and we did write a strong letter to the Massachusetts Commissioner of the DPW asking for action with particular emphasis on painting the bridge. However, there has been no response as yet but we have been calling on nearly a daily basis to elicit a favorable response. A copy of the letter written to Commissioner Garvey is attached.

CC: CHRONOLOGICAL FILE
TICKLER FILE
COUNCIL ORDER FILE
DIVISION HEAD

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

90 OCT -1 AM 9:59

RECEIVED

THE WORKS
CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC

September 13, 1990

Ms. Jane Garvey,
Commissioner
Mass Department of Public Works
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge
Massachusetts 02139
617.498.9051

William Sommers
Commissioner

Dear Commissioner Garvey:

I'd like to bring to your attention a most unsafe, unsightly and unnecessary condition of a bridge in Cambridge which is the maintenance responsibility of the Mass DPW. It is the divided lane bridge over the railroad on Walden Street. The latter is a main thoroughfare linking such heavily trafficked streets as Huron, Concord Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue.

The bridge is rusting and in many places has rusted out; it is unpainted, weed-filled and has a number of holes, poorly patched areas and now has a steel plate covering a partial collapse which occurred a few months ago.

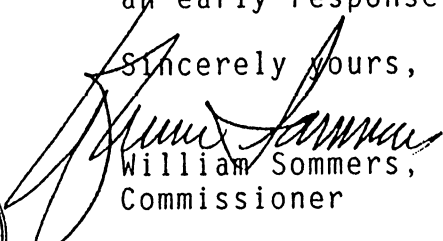
I have attached pictures of the bridge to more vividly illustrate its deficiencies; I've also enclosed a map of Cambridge giving the location of the bridge.

We have had many, many complaints on the bridge, including a City Council Order requesting that I contact your Department to have remedial action taken. I have called various divisions responsible for the bridge and the area; while they have been sympathetic, they have pointed out that they have more bridge repairs to do than money allotted. They have not been encouraging.

I appeal to you as a last resort to at least have the bridge painted and cleaned up a little with your own forces; I also believe that if there was a small amount of "infra-red" surface treatment done to the patching it would help considerably.

We urgently need your help to help us. I'd appreciate an early response.

Sincerely yours,


William Sommers,
Commissioner



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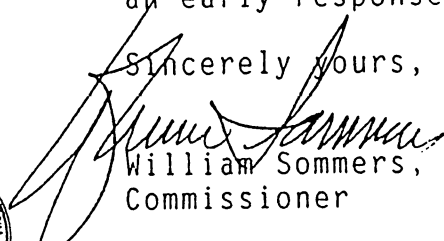
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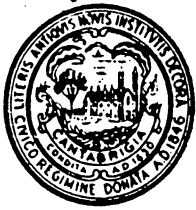
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Robert W. Healy
City Manager

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Agenda # 2

S-992

Awaiting Report Item Number 59 regarding
conditions of the bridge on Walden Street.

In City Council,

October 15, 1990

Placed on file