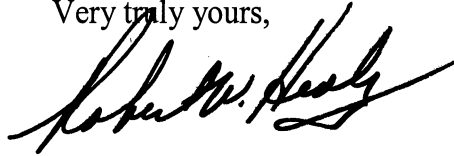


- As part of a Memorandum of Understanding with the EPA, the DPW is involved in many efforts to improve the quality of water discharging to local receiving waters, including the revision of Erosion and Sediment Control standards for construction projects throughout Cambridge; and
- Cambridge is a Phase II community under the EPA's National Pollution Discharge Elimination Program (NPDES) and must develop a citywide plan for stormwater management and public education by March 2003.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec



5.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

June 10, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-31, regarding watershed and water quality issues affecting the Lower Mystic/Alewife Area, Public Works Commissioner Lisa Peterson reports the following:

The Department Public Works (DPW) is willing to participate in a region wide watershed planning effort around the Mystic River and Alewife to further the City's current stormwater management efforts. Staff are currently involved in the Mystic River Watershed Planning Initiative, which is staffed by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, to bring together the watershed communities to discuss regional issues.

Many of the City's planning and engineering efforts over the years have been focused on water quality and watershed planning issues. These efforts include:

- Sewer separation and stormwater management projects are underway throughout the City, including Alewife, Agassiz, Cambridgeport and Harvard Square;
- The recent passage of several major rezoning petitions and studies have included zoning changes that will affect land use patterns and development throughout the City, including the Alewife rezoning petition (Special Districts 4 & 4A), Citywide Rezoning, East Cambridge Planning Study;
- Participation in meetings of the various watershed and advocacy groups, including the Mystic River Watershed Association, Clean Charles Coalition, Friends of Alewife Reservation, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs Watershed Team meetings for the Alewife;
- Work with the MDC on the development of their Master Plan for the Alewife area;
- Work with the towns of Arlington and Belmont on sewer separation and stormwater management efforts in the Alewife area;
- Work with the City of Somerville on sewer separation and stormwater management efforts in the Agassiz area;
- DPW reviews individual development projects for stormwater management BMPs;
- DPW has a program to survey properties throughout the City to detect illicit connections and remove them;

S-179

Consent Agenda #5

**Awaiting Report Item Number
02-31**, regarding a report on
watershed and water quality issues
affecting the Lower
Mystic/Alewife area.

In City Council June 10, 2002

PLACED ON FILE.