



8.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

October 29, 2001

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #01-223 regarding the status of enforcement efforts of the Newsrack Ordinance, Public Works Commissioner Lisa Peterson reports the following:

The position of Newsrack Compliance Officer has been vacant since the winter, with the leave of absence and then resignation of the person holding this position. During this period, the Department of Public Works has been administering the ordinance with regards to registration and maintenance of the accounts of the vendors. Enforcement actions over the past several months, however, have been predominately in areas where large numbers of newsboxes exist --- Harvard and Porter Squares.

In the mean time, the position has been changed from a part-time News Rack Compliance Officer to a full-time Compliance Officer with a primary responsibility for newsrack compliance but additional responsibility for refuse, litter, snow and ice enforcement. Interviews are currently being conducted for this position. We hope to have a person in this position by mid-November. Once this position is filled, the DPW will move aggressively and proactively with regards to enforcement of the Newsrack Ordinance, and will develop recommendations to improve its effectiveness, if necessary.

The Compliance Officer's responsibilities with regard to newsracks include: reviewing compliance with the Newsrack Ordinance and enforcing it, as necessary; verifying the count and location of every newsrack in the City; monitoring the condition of each newsrack; keeping accounts of fees paid by vendors and working with vendors regarding payments, violation notices, cleaning schedule, location questions and other issues; conducting site inspections; and reviewing conditions of set-up and of boxes.

Very truly yours,

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

Robert W. Healy
City Manager



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Consent Agenda #8

Awaiting Report Item Number
01-223, regarding the status of
enforcement efforts of the
Newsrack Ordinance.

In City Council October 29, 2001

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