

# STATUS OF WATER RESOURCES

February 5, 1981

All data extrapolated from mean elevations for January, unless otherwise indicated:

| <u>RESERVOIRS</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>X ELEV. (FT.)</u> | <u>ELEV. (FT.)</u> | <u>VOLUME AVAILABLE</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Hobbs Brook       | 1/59-1/78   | 174.64               |                    | 1368                    |
|                   | 2/5/80      |                      | 181.95             | 2516                    |
|                   | 2/5/81      |                      | 176.53             | 1644                    |
| Stony Brook       | 1/59-1/78   | 79.30                |                    | 316                     |
|                   | 2/5/80      |                      | 67.20              | 73                      |
|                   | 2/5/81      |                      | 68.57              | 97                      |
| Fresh Pond        | 1/59-1/78   | 10.70                |                    | 960                     |
|                   | 2/5/80      |                      | 12.0               | 1025                    |
|                   | 2/5/81      |                      | 5.2                | 700                     |

|                                                        |         |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|------|
| Maximum total storage capacity -----                   | 4456 MG | 100% |
| Mean total available storage for 1/59-1/78 -----       | 2644 MG | 59%  |
| Mean total available storage Januarys 1965-66-67 ----- | 1862 MG | 42%  |
| Total available storage on 2/5/80 -----                | 3614 MG | 81%  |
| Total available storage on 2/5/81 -----                | 2441 MG | 55%  |



**CITY OF CAMBRIDGE**  
**INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

**To :** Mr. James L. Sullivan  
City Manager

**Date :** February 13, 1981

**From :** Conrad C. Fagone, Commissioner *C Fagone* **Reference**  
Public Works Department

**Subject :** Council Order #10 - Mayor Duehay - February 9, 1981  
- Water Supply

Enclosed is a tabulation of the water supply storage figures as of February 5, 1981. On February 5, 1981 the total available storage was approximately 55% of capacity as compared to last year at the same time at 81% capacity. These figures do not reflect the rainfall of February 9 & 11, which increased the water supply available by 2%.

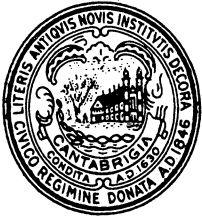
The Cambridge water supply in general is critical, but it is no where near as critical as many other communities. The major question right now is how much rainfall we receive this spring. It is not intended at this time to institute any use cutbacks until we have a better picture of the spring rainfall.

The city is fortunate, in that it has three connections to the MDC system which can provide additional water upon demand to the city of Cambridge. However, the MDC water is substantially more expensive than Cambridge treating its own water. We are therefore reluctant to rely on this system.

In addition, because of the lack of rainfall and a failure of the low lift pumping station, the Water Department had to change its method of operation temporarily. The low lift pumps which were installed in 1921 have both failed and at the present time are unable to pump out of Fresh Pond. We are therefore taking water directly from Stony Brook through the treatment plant which has a high iron magnesium content. This problem, while temporary, could cause some deterioration of the color of the Cambridge water.

I have reviewed with you one of the pumps at the low lift station is being rebuilt on an emergency basis and it is hoped that the pump will be back on line within two weeks. I will keep you informed of any further developments of the water supply situation.

enclosure



## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139  
Tel. 498-9011

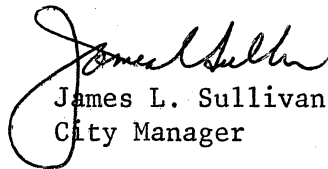
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
JAMES L. SULLIVAN  
City Manager

February 23, 1981

To the Honorable, the City Council:

With respect to City Council Order No. 10 of February 9, 1981, relative to Cambridge's water supply, enclosed please find copy of a report from the Commissioner of Public Works.

Very truly yours,

  
James L. Sullivan  
City Manager

JLS/mbf  
Enc.

Agenda # 4

S' 119

Response to Council Order No. 10 of 2/9/81  
re: to Cambridge's Water Supply.

In City Council,

Feb. 23, 1981

2/23/1981

Placed on File -