



# City of Cambridge

24.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 8, 1993

COUNCILLOR WALSH  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Carole Lee has sent the attached letter to the Cambridge School Department as well as members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Lee has raised some serious questions regarding matters concerning the quality of life on Yerxa Road, Cambridge and as a taxpayer she is entitled to an immediate response both from the City Manager as well as the School Department; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to take all necessary actions to be sure that an immediate response is made to Ms. Lee's memorandum of January 23, 1993 including contacting the Superintendent of Schools and the Traffic Department.

PLACED ON FILE ON THE MOTION OF COUNCILLOR WOLF



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**PLACED ON FILE ON THE MOTION OF COUNCILLOR WOLF**

15 YERXA ROAD  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02140

TO: NEIGHBORS  
FROM: Carole Lee  
DATE: January 23, 1993  
RE: CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT/M. E. FITZGERALD SCHOOL

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I am concerned. I think the Cambridge School Department and the M. E. Fitzgerald School have been "*neighbor unfriendly*". Perhaps this is because we are a small neighborhood (due to the parks and playgrounds), perhaps because we have always been so accepting and passive, or perhaps because we are not considered to be important.

For whatever the reason, the following events have taken place:

1. A playground appeared in the school yard on Yerxa Road, without notification to the neighbors before or after its installation.
2. A blinking traffic light was installed at the end of Yerxa Road -- again, with no explanation or concern for neighbors, before or after installation. For your information: at the time the blinking light appeared, in conjunction with the Traffic Department, a process had commenced to have Yerxa Road changed to a one-way street (request cards had been mailed to the residents). Needless to say after the light appeared, this effort failed.
3. In December portable classrooms appeared at the far end of the school yard on Yerxa Road -- again with no communication. Inquiries were made. On December 15, 1992 the School Committee passed an order requesting the Superintendent to "inform the Community on the use of the portable classroom..." -- to date, nothing has been received.

It now appears consideration is underway to enlarge the Fitzgerald School. The enrollment is just under 500 students. When my children attended this school, enrollment was close to 1,000. Due to overcrowding, the French School was rented for grades K-2, about 200 students, leaving approximately 800 students at the M. E. Fitzgerald School.

The community has not been informed, consulted, considered, or even treated as the abutters and *the taxpayers we are*. While we support the public schools and what is best for the children, this community does deserve to be informed of any changes being considered that may affect the neighborhood environment.

If you would like to meet to discuss these concerns and the possibility of pursuing a meeting with officials of the school department, please call me during the day at 495-1703 or at home in the evening 864-8694. Thank you.



# City of Cambridge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JL" or similar initials.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 4, 1993

COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS, Carole Lee has sent the attached letter to the Cambridge School Department as well as members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lee has raised some serious questions regarding matters concerning the quality of life on Yerxa Road, Cambridge and as a taxpayer she is entitled to an immediate response both from the City Manager as well as the School Department.

RESOLVED, That the City Manager be requested to take all necessary actions to be sure that an immediate response is made to Ms. Lee's memorandum of January 23, 1993 including contacting the Superintendent of Schools and the Traffic Department.

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**ORDERED:** That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to take all necessary actions to be sure that an immediate response is made to Ms. Lee's memorandum of January 23, 1993 including contacting the Superintendent of Schools and the Traffic Department.

*Money*

CONSENT ORDER #24

*CM 34*

Councillor Walsh re: Matters concerning  
a letter from Ms. Carole Lee raising  
concerns of life on Yerxa Road.

In City Council,

February 8, 1993

*Placed on file on  
the motion of Councillor  
Wolf.*