



Susan E. Clippinger
Director

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Traffic, Parking and Transportation
238 Broadway
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

RECEIVED

2002 DEC -3 AM 10: 30

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
Administration 349-4700
Parking Violations 349-4705
Resident Parking 349-4701

MEMORANDUM

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager
From: Susan E. Clippinger, Traffic Director
Date: November 29, 2002
Re: C.O. #02-109 (11-18-02) "Report on the installation of signs being attached to the parking meters at the taxi stand on Brookline Street and increase the size of the taxi stand to include the loading zone at Brookline Street at Massachusetts Avenue and lengthening the loading zone on Green Street."

In response to the above city council order, The Traffic Engineering Division has conducted a site investigation of the area in question. We are very familiar with the traffic regulations and parking behavior in this area and recommend the following.

The first request to install "No Parking Taxi Stand" signs onto the parking meter poles has been attempted many times. The department at one point was replacing these signs weekly due to vandalism and theft. This area is vandalized often and when signs are installed lower than 7 feet, they invite vandals to deface or steal. The existing parking restriction signs on the sign post are also vandalized often, but these signs last for months before the department needs to replace them. The Traffic Engineering Division policy is to no longer install signs on meter poles at this location, due to the maintenance required to maintain.

The second request to increase the size of the taxi stand is understandable due to the lack of available taxi stand parking on Brookline Street. This is due to many vehicles parking illegally in the taxi stand, many of which are unloading and loading equipment into TT The Bear. These vehicles can take up to an hour to unload and load. Unloading at the existing loading zone on Green Street is difficult due to the distance they must carry expensive equipment. The Traffic Engineering Division recommends changing the two unrestricted parking spaces (In front of TT The Bear) after 6PM to "No Parking Loading Zone 6PM to 3AM. By allowing unloading and loading to take place in front of TT The Bear. The existing Taxi Stand should be available for taxis. The Cambridge Police Department has also been requested by this Department to enforce the Taxi Stand in the evening hours.

The final request to lengthen the loading zone on Green Street has been investigated. Currently, there are two large loading zones on Green Street, Between Brookline Street and Economy

Hardware. The Loading Zone closet to Brookline Street is 40 feet in length and has times 7AM-6PM. The Traffic Engineering Division will change these Loading Zone to 24-hours a day. This 24-hour Loading Zone will increase unloading and loading options for both Man Ray and TT The Bear. The other Loading Zone on Green Street is 75 feet in length and is located behind Economy Hardware. This Loading Zone will remain as is.

The Traffic Engineering Division believes that these changes will allow for taxi parking and organize the unloading and loading in the area. The Division will be conducting site inspection over the next six months to see if these improvements enhance the operation for this block of Brookline Street.



5.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

December 9, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-109, regarding a report on the installation of signs being attached to the parking meters at the taxi stand on Brookline Street and increasing the size of the taxi stand to include the loading zone at Brookline Street and Massachusetts Avenue and lengthening the loading zone on Green Street, received from Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

S-369

Consent Agenda #5

Awaiting Report Item
Number 02-109, regarding a report on the installation of signs being attached to the parking meters at the taxi stand on Brookline Street and increasing the size of the taxi stand to include the loading zone at Brookline Street and Massachusetts Avenue and lengthening the loading zone on Green Street.

In City Council December 9, 2002

PLACED ON FILE.