

SCM and SCM will pick the senior up from their appointment. Health Care Providers must fill out a portion of the application form for eligibility in THE RIDE Program, she stated. Ms. Pacheco urged the seniors to contact the COA with any transportation need. The Transportation Access Line is 349-6055 and requires the person's name, address and telephone number.

Councillor Davis inquired how this information available. Ms. Pacheco stated that it is inserted in the Senior Newsletter. Ms. Ginnetty stated that the Resource Guide contains this information in the spring, summer, winter and fall. Councillor Davis asked how many seniors take advantage of the coupon program. Ms. Pacheco responded there are 600 regular users. Councillor Davis asked how many seniors there are in the city. Ms. Pacheco responded 13,400 according to the 1990 Census figures. Councillor Davis asked the audience how many present learned new information. No one responded.

Councillor Davis informed the audience that she is working on a proposal to expand shuttle service around the city.

Councillor Davis opened the meeting to the public at two o'clock and twenty minutes p. m.

Arvilla Sarazen, 15 Lambert Street, stated that two years ago she went to City Hall and filed a petition to get the cross walk in front of the Post Office moved without success. She stated that the red light on Western Avenue needs enforcement. Pleasant Street, the intersection of Prospect Street and Massachusetts Avenue also need enforcement. The traffic lights at Prospect Street and Massachusetts Avenue, she said, are not being obeyed by vehicular traffic. Councillor Davis stated that enforcement may need to be increased. Ms. Sarazen stated that the bus stop at City Hall is the worst. She stated that seniors living in private homes have difficulty getting into some mode of transportation. More drivers and better visualization of where people are traveling from in the city is needed, she said.

Ruby Chung, 863 Massachusetts Avenue, informed the committee of a defect in the sidewalk at 863 Massachusetts Avenue. Councillor Davis encouraged the seniors to call the ***pothole and sidewalk line 349-4854*** to report and defects in sidewalks.

Harry Chung, 863 Massachusetts Avenue, stated that there is a two-inch gap in the sidewalk at this location.

William Cobham, 131 Fayerweather Street, asked what is done in residential areas about defects caused by trees. Councillor Davis responded that roots are cut or ramps are made in an effort to make the sidewalks smoother for pedestrian traffic. These defects, she said, should be reported so that action can be taken to correct the defects.

Dave Levin, 55 Essex Street, stated that handicapped parking spaces are not enforced. The handicapped parking space located in front of 831 Massachusetts Avenue is not enforced. He felt that the city should have an officer roam the city looking for violators of handicapped parking spaces.

Margie Duarte, 72 Plymouth Street, stated that a police officer should be stationed at the intersection of Prospect Street and Massachusetts Avenue because motorists did not pay attention to the red light making it dangerous to cross the street in this area. Years ago, she stated, there was a police box in this area. Councillor Davis stated that there is a lot of enforcement being done; but it needs to be constant. Ms. Sarazen complained about the motorists driving on Pleasant Street and pedestrians trying to cross the street.

John Gintell, 9 West Street, stated that he advocated for THE RIDE. He informed the committee of his experience with his mother who used this type of transportation service. He stated that more publicity is needed about transportation services for the seniors. He informed the committee that 478 people turned 60 years of age this year and this fact alone reinforced the need for more publicity. Enforcement of "No Parking" in bus stops needs to be increased as well as snow removal from bus stops, he said. He further stated that the city's Web Site has no information regarding transportation services for the seniors. The library, he said, should also have this information.

Sylvia Bridgeman, 152 Brookline Street, informed the committee that taxi drivers do not honor the taxi coupons. An unidentified senior stated that she pays her fare and uses her coupon as a tip. Councillor Davis urged the seniors to take the taxi cab number and report the number to the COA and the License Commission will take action. Councillor Davis suggested that the COA provide Ms. Bridgeman with a letter detailing the taxi driver's obligation to accept the coupons so that Ms. Bridgeman can keep it in her wallet. Ms. Ellen Semonoff, Deputy Director of Human Services, stated that it would be more appropriate for the letter to come from the License Commissioner. Another suggestion was made that the coupons contain the regulations written on the coupons that failure to honor the coupon is grounds for the taxi driver losing his license.

Mr. Cobham stated that the bus stop at City Hall is abused, sometimes by city employees who park in the bus stop which prevents the bus driver from getting close to the curb so that the senior citizen can easily board the bus. This violation needs to be addressed, he said, because it occurs throughout the city. Buses need to get close to the sidewalk to pick up passengers, he said.

John Long, Director of SCM, stated that his company also provides transportation to Everett, Malden, Lexington and Belmont. The grocery-shopping

shuttle operates Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, he said. He stated that the telephone number for the grocery-shopping shuttle is 625-1191. The medical appointment shuttle operates 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, he said. SCM provides door-to-door service. A scheduled of the trips to the mall was provided by COA (**ATTACHMENT B**). The medical appointment van is scheduled on a first-come-first serve basis and can accommodate 6-8 people. There are more people who want to use the medical appointment van than there is space. He urged the seniors who want to use the shuttle to make a reservation early. Ms. Ruby Chung stated that she used the medical appointment van and stated that there is a time lag. She had an appointment at 2:00 p.m. and was pick up for her appointment at 11:30 a.m. Mr. Long stated that Ms. Chung got a worst case scenario. Ms. Sarazen asked how far in advance is the best time to make a reservation. Mr. Long responded four weeks. The more notice that is given the better, he said. If there is a cancellation SCM can fit people in, but when there are more people looking for rides than we can provide it is difficult to prioritize.

Ms. Ginnetty stated that the COA could provide the accessible taxi cell phone numbers and an emergency coupon. Ms. Ginnetty will provide Mr. Long with a list of the accessible taxi numbers.

Councillor Davis made the following motion:

That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide a report on the following:

- Ways to increase outreach and advertisement of senior transportation services, particularly the taxi coupon program
- Increase enforcement of no parking in handicapped parking spaces, at bus stops, and pedestrian crossings, especially Prospect Street and Massachusetts Avenue
- Increase funding to SCM to provide additional medical appointment shuttles for seniors to a level that compares with surrounding communities
- The minutes of this meeting and the **Senior Resource Guide** be made available to appropriate senior organizations and senior housing in the city.

The meeting adjourned at three o'clock p. m

For the Committee,

Councillor Henrietta Davis,
Chair

Department of Human Service Programs

sharing resources...building community

TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES FOR CAMBRIDGE ELDERS

CAMBRIDGE TAXI CAB COUPON PROGRAM: Taxi discount coupons, funded by the City of Cambridge, are offered free of charge to Cambridge residents who are sixty years of age or older. Riders must use a licensed Cambridge taxi company and each coupon is worth \$1.75. The elder can use one coupon for fares under \$5.00 and two coupons for fares over \$5.00. A maximum of two coupons can be used for any one-way trip, regardless of the fare. Phone-in registration is possible. Individuals registering by phone will have to send proof of eligibility to the registering agency. For information on registration for the Coupon Program contact the Cambridge Council on Aging at 349-6220.

CAMBRIDGE COUNCIL ON AGING SHUTTLE BUS: The Cambridge COA provides transportation at various pick up points throughout the City to the City Wide Senior Center, located at 806 Massachusetts Ave. This service is available M-F, 8:30-5:00. For more information, call the Cambridge Council on Aging at 349-6055.

CAMBRIDGE COUNCIL ON AGING MALL SHOPPING: On the second, third and fourth Fridays of the month, the COA pickups seniors at various housing developments and transports to area malls. A donation of \$1.25 is requested. For additional information call 349-6055.

SCM COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION, INC.: Resident of Cambridge, Somerville, and Medford 60 years of age or older or disabled can call for curb to curb rides for local non-emergency medical appointments and grocery shopping. A minimum of 48 hours notice must be given. SCM will accept reservations up to thirty days in advance. SCM provides shuttle services to most of the local hospitals in Boston. Shuttle service is Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 P.M. Medical appointments must be made for 9:00 am or after and be finished by 2:00 P.M. SCM charges a fee of \$1.00 each way within the cities they serve, \$2.00 each way for shuttle service to hospitals within the Boston area. Drivers will help a passenger up or down from the curb and/or to or from one step. SCM will not provide wheelchair carry-down services. Escorts are allowed to accompany an elder. Scheduling hours for transportation is Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 P.M. SCM can be reached at (617) 625-1191.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSIT AUTHORITY (MBTA): Discount fares for Senior Citizens sixty-five years of age or older. A picture ID can be obtained at the MBTA Senior and Access Pass Office located at the Back Bay Station, 145 Dartmouth St., Boston. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 P.M. Requirements for ID Card are: proof of age 65 or older, e.g. birth certificate, baptismal



record, citizenship papers or driver's license. Proof of residency, driver's license or gas/electric bill. For more information call (617) 222-5438.

THE RIDE: Seniors and/or disabled individuals unable to use public transportation due to difficulty with either walking, seeing, using stairs or escalator, or riding in a standard transit vehicle and who are registered with the MBTA Office for Transportation Access can receive door to door transportation for any type of trip. A licensed/certified human service or health care professional must complete a form that is familiar with the individual and his or her disability. The individual must have a disability, which prevents using public transportation, and must reside within The Ride service area. The Ride is a first come first serve service. Registration must be made for transportation service. Fee for service is through the purchase of booklet of tickets, which is for four round trips for one person. Each ticket is \$1.00. All vehicles are equipped to carry both ambulatory persons and individuals in wheelchairs. The driver will help a passenger up or down from curb and/or up or down from one step. Escort can accompany individuals. The MBTA Office for Transportation Access is located at: 10 Park Plaza, Room 4730, Boston, MA 02116. For more information or application form contact (617) 222-5123.

MASSHEALTH TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM: This service is for non-emergency medical trips only. Service is available to MassHealth (Medicaid benefits) clients including CommonHealth and Mass. Commission for the Blind. EAEDC clients are not eligible for the service. Transportation service to medical appointments when an individual is unable to access public or private transportation. Doctor or medical provider must authorize the need for transportation by completing a Prescription for Transportation (PT-1) Form. A separate PT-1 Form must be submitted for each medical provider a client visits. Once approved, individuals must call, at least, 3 days in advance of scheduled appointment. For additional information call (800) 841-2900.

KIDNEY TRANSPLANT/DIALYSIS ASSOCIATION, INC.: Will reimburse transportation cost to any individual who is undergoing dialysis. Individuals should request a Patient Assistance Grant Application at their place of dialysis treatment. The application has a section to be completed by the medical social worker. All receipts for transportation cost incurred must be submitted with the application. A committee for approval reviews all applications. Decisions about reimbursement take 1 to 2 months. For additional information contact (617) 641-4000.

WHEELCHAIR VANS: Ambulance Services often have wheelchair van service. Check the Yellow Pages for local companies. Chisholm Chair Car, Professional Ambulance, Handi-Trans, Cataldo Chair Car/Ambulance, and Accessible Transportation, Co. are a few. The rider would be paying privately for any non-emergency ride.

THE SHEPERD'S CENTER OF CAMB./SOM. : Escort transportation is available to persons 60 and older and/or disabled individuals. For more information, call 354-3667.

SCM COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION NUTRITIONAL SHOPPING IN CAMBRIDGE

TUESDAY 9:00 AM**FROM**

4xx Franklin Street
885 Mass Avenue

Merrill Street
393-395 Broadway

TO

Week 1: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 2: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 3: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 4: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 5: Market Basket, Somerville

TUESDAY 9:30 AM**FROM**

Otis Street

Berkshire Street

TO

Week 1: Star Market, Twin City Plaza
Week 2: Star Market, Twin City Plaza
Week 3: Star Market, Twin City Plaza
Week 4: Star Market, Twin City Plaza
Week 5: Star Market, Twin City Plaza

TUESDAY 12:00 NOON**FROM**

Rindge Towers
Jackson Street
Jackson Place
Clifton Street
Linnaean Street
Garden Street
2050 Mass Avenue

Chauncy Street
Hazel Street
Jackson Circle
Orchard Street
Normandy Avenue
Lakeview Avenue
Fayerweather Street

TO

Week 1: Star Market, Porter Square
Week 2: Star Market, Porter Square
Week 3: Star Market, Porter Square
Week 4: Star Market, Porter Square
Week 5: Star Market, Porter Square

WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM**FROM**

Oxford Street
1124 Mass Avenue
Dana Street
287 Harvard Street
Essex Street

Norfolk Street
Cambridge Street
Lambert Street
Washington Street

TO

Week 1: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 2: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 3: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 4: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 5: Market Basket, Somerville

WEDNESDAY 12:00 NOON**FROM**

Churchill Avenue
Malignon Road
Muray Hill Road

2050 Mass Avenue
(Weeks 3 and 5 only)

TO

Week 1: Star Market, Porter Square
Week 2: Star Market, Porter Square
Week 3: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 4: Star Market, Porter Square
Week 5: Market Basket, Somerville

THURSDAY 10:00 AM**FROM**

Erie Street
Chaulk Street/
Woodrow Wilson Court
Pearl Street
237 Franklin Street
100 Memorial Drive

Magazine Street
Putnam Avenue
Worcester Street
Columbus Avenue
Howard Street
Decatur Street

TO

Week 1: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 2: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 3: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 4: Market Basket, Somerville
Week 5: Market Basket, Somerville

September 1, 1998

CAMBRIDGE COUNCIL ON AGING
806 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139
(617) 349-6220

MALL SHOPPING TRIP SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

LOCATION	CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE #	TIME OF TRIP
SECOND FRIDAY	OF EACH MONTH		
2 Mt. Auburn St.	Judy Roddy	495-7905	9:00 - 12:30
Manning Apts. 237 Franklin St.	Lucille Council	354-8567	9:05 - 12:30
LBJ Apts. 150 Erie Street	Billye Thomas	499-7162	9:10 - 12:30
Decatur St./Pearl St.	Laura Habermann	349-6047	9:15 - 12:30
Burns Apts. 30-50 Churchill Avenue	Michelle Smith	499-7108	10:40 - 1:30
THIRD FRIDAY			
Miller's River Apts. 15 Lambert Street	Jill Valbuena	499-7155	10:55 - 1:30
Roosevelt Towers	Roxanne Davies	499-7149	11:00- 1:30
FOURTH FRIDAY			
Huron Towers 700 Huron Avenue	Louise Sullivan	868-2947	10:40 - 1:40
Corcoran Park 150 Corcoran Park	Pauline O'Donnell	492-8226	10:45 - 1:40

The Cambridge Council on Aging operates the Mall Shopping Shuttle for Cambridge residents, 60 years of age or older. The Council requests a donation of \$1.25, per rider. If there are any questions, please contact Susan Pacheco at 349-6220. The three malls that the Council transports to are Cambridge Side Galleria, Meadow Glen Mall, and Arsenal Mall, (there is a set destination each month).

The Cambridge Council on Aging does not discriminate on the basis of disability. We will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in accessible formats, and responsible modifications in policies and procedures to qualified applicants and program participants upon request.

Revised 1/13/00

MALL DESTINATIONS 2000

January 2000	Arsenal Mall
February 2000	Cambridgeside Galleria
March 2000	Meadow Glen Mall
April 2000	Arsenal Mall
May 2000	Cambridgeside Galleria
June 2000	Meadow Glen Mall
July 2000	Arsenal Mall
August 2000	Cambridgeside Galleria
September 2000	Meadow Glen Mall
October 2000	Arsenal Mall
November 2000	Cambridgeside Galleria
December 2000	Meadow Glen Mall

***Mall Trips are for Cambridge Residents, 60 years of age or older. The cost to each rider is a donation of \$1.25.

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City of Cambridge

In City Council April 10, 2000

The Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee conducted a public meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2000 at two o'clock and five minutes p. m. at the Milne Ballroom, Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss transportation available for the seniors throughout the city and the best way to provide additional services.

Present at the meeting were: Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair, Ellen Semonoff, Deputy Director of Human Services, Eileen Ginnetty, Executive Director of the Council on Aging, Susan Pacheco, Director of Client Services of the Council on Aging and Donna P. Lopez, Deputy City Clerk.

Councillor Davis opened the meeting. She stated that Councillor Toomey, a committee member, is expected but will be late and Councillor Braude is unable to attend the meeting due to a prior commitment.

Eileen Ginnetty, Executive Director of the Council on Aging (COA), described transportation services available to seniors and distributed a document entitled **Transportation Resources for Cambridge Elders**, attached as **ATTACHMENT A**. She stated that it is an ongoing challenge to reach out to seniors in an effort to increase ridership. She stated that the shuttles operate Monday through Friday. The "Red Bus" is utilized for special events such as senior groups going to a restaurant or to a theatre, she said. Senior shuttle changes are made on request. Ms. Ginnetty stated that SCM, directed by John Long, has a contract with the city for transportation to medical appointments and weekly grocery shopping. The Council on Aging is seeking to increase ridership on this shuttle. Taxi service is also used and it is handicapped accessible, she said.

Susan Pacheco, Director of Client Services of the Council on Aging, urged the seniors to utilize the Transportation Resource List. All senior 60 and over are eligible for the Taxi Coupon Program. Applicants are required to fill out an application at the COA with proof of age and residency, she stated. A book of ten coupons is provided worth \$1.75 off the taxi fare. For a fare of \$5.00 and under one coupon can be used and two coupons can be used for fares over \$5.00. (She stated that disabled persons under 60 years of age can access programs through the Disabilities Commission.) SCM, she said, provides curb-to-curb transportation for medical appointments 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p. m. Monday through Friday. They take reservations. SCM puts the clients into their system for a return ride. When the senior is finished with their appointment they can call

Committee Report #3

9KS

A report was received from Councillor Davis, Chair of the Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee, for a public meeting held on April 4, 2000 to discuss transportation available for the seniors throughout the city and the best way to provide additional services.

S-94

In City Council April 10, 2000

Report Accepted

PLACED ON FILE

ORDER ADOPTED