



City of Cambridge  
Department of Human Service Programs  
51 Inman Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, 498-9076

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert W. Healy, City Manager  
FROM: Jill Herold, Asst. City Manager *JH*  
Human Services  
DATE: February 6, 1989  
RE: Transportation for the Elderly

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The Department of Human Service Programs through the Council on Aging, CDBG, and City funds provides elder residents of Cambridge with a number of transportation services.

Taxi discount coupons, funded by the City of Cambridge at the level of \$12,000 annually, are available to any Cambridge resident who is 65+ years old or handicapped. The coupons, issued in books of ten, are used to take one dollar off a taxi fare provided by a licensed Cambridge taxi driver. A maximum of one coupon can be used for any one-way fare under \$5.00 and a maximum of 2 coupons can be used for any one-way fare over \$5.25. The Council on Aging has distributed over 6,550 taxi cab coupons to 650 Cambridge elders in the year.

SCM Transportation, Inc. provides curb-to-curb shared rides for local medical trips, adult day care programs, meal sites, social and food shopping trips through a \$20,000 CDBG (block grant) award and a \$10,000 formula grant from the Council on Aging. The information and referral specialist at the Council on Aging provides elders with referrals to SCM and helps to arrange rides for medical and shopping trips. The specialist also arranges monthly trips for approximately 5-10 elders each month for Bright Eyes, a special free vision program run by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness. SCM's Shop Van provided transportation services to and from shopping centers for over 324 Cambridge elders over the last six month period. Cambridge CDBG dollars also fund local and Boston trips for medical purposes. SCM is planning outreach in East Cambridge, an underserved area, in order to increase the number of Cambridge S.H.O.P. riders.

The COA bus, a red and blue mini bus, provides transportation for approximately 30 group trips to shopping centers, the theater, dinner or special events each month.

DIVISIONS:

Childcare  
498-9076

Community & Youth  
498-9037/9072

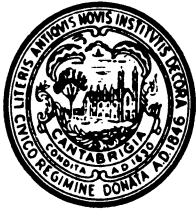
Low Income Fuel Assistance  
498-9038

Recreation  
498-9028

Community Learning Center  
547-1589

Council on Aging/Elderly Services  
498-9039

Planning & Development  
498-9076



## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

March 27, 1989

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report No. 30 regarding transportation services for the elderly, I submit the attached report from the Human Services Department.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager

Agenda Item No. 6 S-207

Re: response to Awaiting Report Item 30 on  
transportation services for the elderly.

In City Council,

March 27, 1989

3-27-89

Placed on File.