



City of Somerville
Massachusetts
Office of City Clerk

December 14, 1990

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Sir or Madame:

I have been instructed by Somerville Board of Aldermen to forward to you a copy of a Resolution, unanimously adopted by the Board at their regular meeting of December 13, 1990.

Very truly yours,


Arthur B. McCue
City Clerk

cc: Commonwealth of Mass.
Sec. of Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street
Boston, MA 02114



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

MICHAEL E. CAPUANO
MAYOR

December 13, 1990

RESOLUTION

A Resolution Concerning the Central Artery/Tunnel Project

- WHEREAS: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is preparing to embark on the largest capital improvements project in its history by depressing the Central Artery highway and constructing a third Boston Harbor tunnel; and
- WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Department of Public Works (DPW) has prepared a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for this project, commonly known as the Central Artery/Tunnel Project; and
- WHEREAS: One component of this massive and significant project is a highway bridge crossing the Charles River and a series of roadway interchanges, being as much as 11 stories in height, and 16 lanes and 700 feet in width, and commonly known as "Scheme Z"; and
- WHEREAS: Meaningful measures for mitigating the impacts resulting from the "Scheme Z" structure have not been fully outlined, discussed, and analyzed, especially those related to the recent elimination of the "W-CN Ramp" or "Traverse Street Ramp" from the project's design; and
- WHEREAS: Significant impacts will be felt by residents of the City of Somerville by said ramp elimination, including but not being limited to increased traffic and hazardous waste cargos being forced to travel through the City of Somerville to access I-93; and
- WHEREAS: No analysis has been undertaken of the effect of this additional traffic upon the levels of service and safety of local roads in Somerville, including Mystic Avenue, McGrath Highway, and access ramps to I-93 located within the City of Somerville; and

WHEREAS: There is a lack of documentation of the number of vehicles carrying hazardous wastes which will be routed through surface streets within the City of Somerville as a result of said vehicles being prohibited in the Central Artery Tunnel and due to the elimination of the Traverse Street ramps; and

WHEREAS: There is no designation of specific hazardous waste cargo transportation routes in the communities adjacent to the project, including Somerville; and

WHEREAS: The "Scheme Z" elevated interchange element of the project, as presently designed, will increase air pollution and visual blight upon the eastern portions of the City of Somerville, to the detriment of residents of said area and with impacts on the development potential of lands in close proximity to said interchange; and

WHEREAS: The Central Artery project does not include a rail transit connection between North and South Stations in the City of Boston, which would be of immense benefit to users of the MBTA system, including Somerville residents;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

THAT the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, representing the people of the City of Somerville, determine:

THAT the Central Artery/Tunnel EIR is incomplete and negligent with respect to the vital economic and quality-of-life interests of the City of Somerville and its residents; and

THAT there should be further study of the impacts of the "Scheme Z" design and alternatives to the present design; and

THAT appropriate departments of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts should investigate the ability to obtain separate, discrete funding for the Central Artery portion of the project and separate, discrete funding for the Harbor Tunnel portion of the project, in order that additional study can be made of the impacts resulting from and alternatives to the "Scheme Z" portion of the Central Artery Plan without compromising progress on the Harbor Tunnel portion of the project; and

THAT the Massachusetts Secretary of Environmental Affairs should not approve the Central Artery/Tunnel EIR at this time, and not until such time as the above-noted issues are fully addressed.

Signed:



Honorable Michael E. Capuano, Mayor

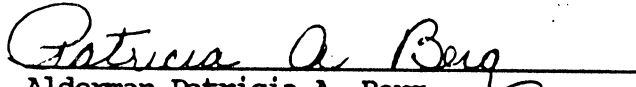
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Signed:


Alderman Robert P. Callahan, President of Board of Aldermen


Alderman Patricia A. Berg

By: Mayor Michael E. Capuano
Alderman Robert P. Callahan
Alderman Patricia A. Berg

RESOLUTION

A Resolution Concerning the
Central Artery/Tunnel Project

In Board of Aldermen

DEC 18 1990

Callahan

Michael E. Capuano

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Comm. from Arthur B. McCue, City Clerk of
Somerville, transmitting a copy of a
resolution adopted by the City Council
concerning the Central Artery Tunnel Project.

In City Council,
January 7, 1991

Placed on file

CAMBRIDGE MA.

DEC 18 AM 9:45

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

*Copy to number 5
Cambridge City Council*