

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Traffic, Parking and Transportation
57 Inman Street,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Susan E. Clippinger
Director

Administration 349-4700
Parking Violations 349-4705
Resident Parking 349-4701

RECEIVED
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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

October 12, 1995

TO: Robert Healy, City Manager

FROM: Susan E. Clippinger, Director *SEC*

SUBJECT: City Council Order # 11 dated 9/18/95

RE: Traffic study with recommendations on safety surrounding St. Peter's School

In response to the City Council Order, Lauren Preston and myself met with Mr. Good, Mrs. O'Neil and three parents active at the St. Peter's School on Monday, October 2, 1995 to discuss their safety concerns. After the meeting, I sent the enclosed response to Mrs. O'Neill plus the enclosed letter to parents for her to use.



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October 12, 1995

Mrs. Deborah O'Neil
St. Peter's School
96 Concord Ave.
Cambridge, MA

Dear Mrs. O'Neil:

I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you today and hear from yourself, and the parents at your school, about their concerns relative to the safety of the children and their parents, especially when school is being dismissed at the end of the day.

As a result of the meeting, I have taken the following steps:

1. Passed on to the Police Department your request that either an additional school crossing guard be assigned to Concord and Madison, or the crossing guard at Concord and Huron cover the intersection of Concord and Madison for the 15 minutes from 2:00 to 2:15P.M. when school lets out. The Police indicated that they cannot add additional crossing guards. They will have to review the feasibility of changing the current crossing guard's assignment.
2. Assign our bicycle parking control officer to your area from 1:45 to 2:15P.M. to tag the double parking in front of the school. We will continue to give consideration and not tag anyone who is parked at the curb. The double parking is the greatest hazard to the safety of anyone using the crosswalk at Madison as well as to motorists on Concord Ave.
3. I have reviewed the signal at Concord and Huron Avenues. The walk signal here is exclusive so that all 4 legs of the intersection are stopped when the button is pushed for the walk signal. The average wait at 2 P.M., once the button is pushed, is about 35-40 seconds. The most someone would have to wait is 60 seconds.
4. I have drafted a letter you can send out to the parents of the school. The letter is attached.

In conclusion, I want to reiterate two items we discussed at the meeting. First, if parents stay with their cars when parked on Concord Ave. in front of the school and pull ahead whenever a car pulls out, then the number of cars that can be handled along the curb would be maximized. Secondly, by closing off your driveway, you put tremendous pressure on the limited Concord Ave. curb area to handle your school pick up needs. This driveway is a valuable resource that can help alleviate the safety problems being created when school is dismissed. I strongly urge you to consider the option of handling a portion of the pick ups in your driveway so the double parking on Concord Ave. can be eliminated.

Please let me know how things are going. I would like to continue working with you to improve safety for the school children. Please feel free to call me if I can help further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan E Clippinger".

Susan E. Clippinger
Director

SEC:lb

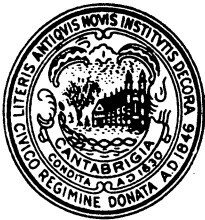
CC: John Good

Sheila Russell

Steve A'Hearn

Richard Rossi

Phil Leccese



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Dear St. Peters School Parents:

I am working with your school administration and active parents to improve safety at the school, especially between 1:45 P.M. and 2:15 P.M. when the children are being dismissed.

The single thing that most endangers the safety of the school children is parents double parking, even for an instant, in front of the school. When a car is double parked on Concord Ave., it blocks the view of pedestrians using the crosswalk to Madison Street and distracts the drivers who are having to navigate around the cars in front of the school.

As adults coming to pick up school children, it is essential that you are active participants in making the school dismissal time safe. I strongly urge you to take the following steps:

1. Pull your car into the curb, do not double park.
2. Stay in your car and pull ahead into empty parking spaces so cars coming after you can also get to the curb.
3. **DO NOT DOUBLE PARK!** If there is no room, go around the block or park on Manassas Ave. (or Madison?).
4. When traveling on Concord Ave., stop and yield to pedestrians crossing at Madison Street.

This Department will continue our policy of allowing parents to be parked in front of the school to pick up their children. We will, however, strictly enforce the double parking. I hope that by all of us working together we can make the dismissal of the school children as safely and efficient as possible.

Thank you,

Susan E. Clippinger, Director

SEC:lb



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307

October 23, 1995

To The Honorable, The City Council:

With reference to Awaiting Report Item Nos. 46 and 55, regarding a traffic study with recommendations on safety surrounding the St. Peter's School, please find attached a response from Susan E. Clippinger, Director of the Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", is written over the typed name and title.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
attachment

Consent Agenda #5

Relative to Awaiting Report Item
numbers forty-six and fifty-five,
regarding a traffic study with
recommendations on safety surrounding
St. Peter's School.

Rep. # 55 - for original
order. See Order # 54
of 10/2/95

Rep. # 46 - for original
order. See 1995 City
Manager Requests # 401

In City Council October 23, 1995

Placed on file