



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

October 2, 1998

TO: Robert Healy, City Manager

FROM: Susan E. Clippinger, Director 

SUBJECT: Council Order #173 dated 7/27/98

RE: Report on progress on a citywide 25 MPH speed limit

This office has contacted Mr. Charles Sterling, State Traffic Engineer requesting approval to change the speed limit to 25 MPH throughout the city. A copy of the letter is attached. We will forward a copy of his response when it is received.

Also enclosed is a copy of Schedule 1 and 2 which is a list of streets already approved for 25 MPH.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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Susan E. Clippinger
Director

September 28, 1998

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

Mr. Charles Sterling, P.E.
State Traffic Engineer
Mass. Highway Dept.
10 Park Plaza Room 7210
Boston, MA 02116-3973

Dear Mr. Sterling:

Cambridge is a dynamic, multifaceted densely populated urban city with about 110 miles of street excluding MDC and State highways. Parking is allowed along one or both sides of most streets which average 26' to 33' in width.. Land use is a mixture, with residents living on all streets. Pedestrian activity is high city-wide due to the large number of parks, playgrounds, tot lots, schools, universities, retail establishments, businesses, etc. Also 48% of people who live and work in Cambridge walk to work.

Over the years the residents of Cambridge have been seriously concerned about the speed of the traffic on city streets. It has been repeatedly demonstrated that a key component to increasing safety for all roadway users is lower speed. This is especially true for areas where pedestrian volumes are high. With lower speeds, reaction time is better, stopping distance is decreased, and accident severity is reduced or eliminated. Up to this point, the Traffic Department has submitted a number of speed studies for individual streets, along with requests to lower the speed limit to the M.H.D with no detrimental effect on traffic flow on the streets where the speed has been lowered. In an effort to address speeding issues, the City has also embarked on a comprehensive traffic calming program. We have committed staff, design and construction funds to this effort. The city would like State approval for speed limits of 25 MPH throughout the city unless zoned and approved by the State for a different speed. This would allow us to post the speed limit at the entry points of the city and remind all drivers to keep their speeds reasonable within the city. Residents and City Councilors continue to request that speed limits on streets throughout the city be reduced. Your support of this is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours

Susan E. Clippinger
Director

SCHEDULE 1&2
SPECIAL SPEED REGULATIONS

In accordance with the provisions of Chap. 90, Sect. 18 MGL and when signs are erected giving notice thereof, the maximum speed limit shall be as set forth in this schedule upon those streets or portions thereof.

(xxxx) STATE REG. NO.

STREET		FROM	TO	DIRECTION	SPEED	EFF DATE
Brattle	(3084)	Mason	Mt. Auburn	Westbound		
				0.55 mi.	25 MPH	14 Sep 77
				0.52 mi.	30 MPH	14 Sep 77
Brattle	(3084)	Mt. Auburn	Mason	Eastbound		
				0.52	30 MPH	14 Sep 77
				0.55	25 MPH	14 Sep 77
Brookline	(4011)	Memorial Drive	Mass. Ave.	Northbound	25 MPH	19 Dec 77
Columbia	(593)	Main	City Line	Northbound	25 MPH	12 Jan 71
Columbia	(593)	City Line	Main	Southbound	25 MPH	12 Jan 71
Gore	(4028)	Som. City Line	Msgr. O'Brien Hwy.	Eastbound	25 MPH	24 Mar 78
Gore	(4028)	Msgr. O'Brien Hwy	Som. City Line	Westbound	25 MPH	24 Mar 78
Huron Avenue	(2091)	Grove St. (Bel.)	Raymond	Eastbound	25 MPH	10 Nov 76
Huron Avenue	(2091)	Raymond	Grove St. (Bel.)	Westbound	25 MPH	10 Nov 76
Linnaean	(4028)	Garden	Mass. Ave.	Eastbound	25 MPH	24 Mar 78
Linnaean	(4028)	Mass. Ave.	Garden	Westbound	25 MPH	24 Mar 78
Line	(5023)	Cambridge	Kirkland	Westbound	25 MPH	1 Feb 79
Oxford	(969)	Kirkland	Som. City Line	Northbound	25 MPH	13 Sep 74
Oxford	(969)	Som. City Line	Kirkland	Southbound	25 MPH	13 Sep 74
Rindge Ave.	(3084)	Alewife Brook Pky	Mass. Ave.	Eastbound	25 MPH	14 Sep 77
Rindge Ave.	(3084)	Mass. Ave.	Alewife Brook Pky	Westbound	25 MPH	14 Sep 77
River	(432)	Memorial Drive	Green	Eastbound	25 MPH	19 Aug 68
Route 2	(7484 606)	Arl. Town Line	Arl. Town Line	Eastbound	45 MPH	25 July 90 5 Mar 71
Route 2	(7484 606)	Arl. Town Line	Arl. Town Line	Westbound	45 MPH	25 July 90 5 Mar 71
Sherman	(621)	Huron Ave.	Rindge Ave.	Northbound	25 MPH	27 Apr 71
Sherman	(621)	Rindge Ave.	Huron Ave.	Southbound	25 MPH	27 Apr 71
Sidney	(4011)	Henry	Green	Northbound	25 MPH	19 Dec 77
Sidney	(4011)	Mass. Ave.	Henry	Southbound	25 MPH	19 Dec 77
Walden	(816)	Vassal Lane	Mass. Ave.	Northbound	25 MPH	12 Jun 73
Walden	(816)	Mass. Ave.	Vassal Lane	Southbound	25 MPH	12 Jun 73
Western Ave.	(433)	Green	Memorial Drive	Westbound	25 MPH	19 Aug 68

SCHEDULE 1&2
SPECIAL SPEED REGULATIONS

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(xxxx) STATE REG. NO.

STREET	FROM	TO	DIRECTION	SPEED	EFF DATE
✓ BERKSHIRE (7382)	BRISTOL	CAMBRIDGE	EASTERLY (NORTHERLY)	25 MPH	9-29-84
✓ CUSHING (7395)	HURON AVE	BELMONT ST.	SOUTHERLY	25 MPH	3-30-87
WILLOW (7395)	CAMBRIDGE	WEBSTER AVE	SOUTHERLY	25 MPH	3-30-87
FAYBURNATHOR (7491)	WALDEN	BRATTLE	SOUTHERLY	25 MPH	11.9.90
FAYBURNATHOR (7491)	BRATTLE	HURON	NORTHERLY	25 MPH	11.9.90
PEARL (7547)	MASS	GRANITE	SOUTHERLY	25 MPH	7.7.92
WASHINGTON ST. (7559)	WINDSOR	PORTLAND	EASTERLY	20 MPH	1.5.93
WASHINGTON ST. (7559)	WINDSOR	HARFOLK	WESTERLY	20 MPH	1.5.93
UPLAND RD. (7701)	MASS AVE	HURON AVE	WESTERLY	25 MPH	8-20-97
UPLAND RD (7701)	RAYMOND ST.	MASS AVE	EASTERLY	25 MPH	8-20-97



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 349-4300
FAX. 349-4307



14.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

October 19, 1998

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. Thirteen, regarding a report on the progress of a citywide 25-MPH speed limit, received from Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #14

6535

RElative to AW Report #13 regarding
a report on the progress of a
citywide 25-MPH speed limit.

In City Council October 19, 1998

PLACED ON FILE w/request
that City Clerk send copies
to Cambridge legislation for
their assistance.