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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

October 19, 1992

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #13 regarding ticketing and the pattern of enforcement of the Street Performers Ordinance, please be advised that as of October 16, 1992, Arts Council Staff have not issued any tickets for violations to this ordinance.

The recent (August 3, 1992) amendment to this ordinance changed the distance for the sound reading from 50 to 25 feet, and states that drums shall be inaudible at a distance of 150 feet. Since this amendment, Arts Council staff - while monitoring Harvard Square - discussed the changes to the ordinance with performers, and helped performers regulate their amplifiers so not to exceed the sound limit. Staff report that noise in the area has gone down. Since the amendment, one complaint was received and followed up on by the Arts Council; the group towards which the complaint was directed has since left the area.

Members of Arts Council staff continue to monitor Harvard Square (and other performance areas) on a regular basis. No less than eight hours per week are spent in the area. These hours are randomly divided during both weekdays and weekends. They include: daytime (noon to 6:00 p.m.), when most complaints from businesses are registered; evenings (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.); and nights (9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.). These hours will more than likely decrease as activity decreases during the colder weather.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Consent Agenda # 16 S-847

Awaiting Report Item Number 13
regarding ticketing and the
pattern of enforcement of the Street
Performers Ordinance.

In City Council,

Oct. 19, 1992

Placed on file