



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

July 29, 2002

To the Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-47, regarding why claims are not being settled promptly and on what measures can be taken to ensure that contractors that do not respond appropriately are not awarded future contracts, Russell B. Higley City Solicitor reports the following:

With respect to the specific question of whether claims are settled promptly, especially claims that involve damage caused by one of the City's contractors, I would note that while every claim is investigated prior to a decision being reached, some claims may take longer than others to resolve. If a claim involves a contractor, it is our usual practice to refer the claim to the contractor or its insurer for prompt action. In those instances, the Law Department makes every effort to see that the contractor and/or its insurer gives full consideration to such claims and takes action as promptly as possible. There are occasions when the City, even after conferring with the contractor and/or its insurer or others with knowledge of the claim, denies a claim, based upon the fact that the City itself, or others acting on its behalf, is not responsible for the damages claimed.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/dls

S-220

Consent Agenda #15

Awaiting Report Item

Number 02-47, regarding why claims are not being settled promptly and what measures can be taken to ensure that contractors that do not respond appropriately are not awarded future contracts.

In City Council July 29, 2002

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