



City of Cambridge

10.

COUNCILLOR WALSH

IN CITY COUNCIL
October 23, 1989

WHEREAS: In the interest of working for the continual upgrading of Postal Service in Cambridge, both an effort to expand cooperation between the City and the U.S. Postal Service, as referenced in the September 19, 1989 letter to the City Manager from Robert E. Simmons, Manager, Cambridge "A" Branch, a copy of which is attached, and transmitted to this City Council, and an attempt to provide some response to the concerns itemized in that letter, suggest implementation of the following:

1. As a form of public service announcement, the City's Cable Television Office prepare and present on a regular basis a reminder to viewers to notify the Postal Service of all changes in address, and make an effort to remove articles and obstacles or repair damaged walkways which might impede or prove hazardous to postal personnel while delivering mail on private property.
2. A sense of this City Council be transmitted to the Presidents of the Colleges in Cambridge which favors very strongly creation of a new system whereby the distribution and pickup of mail for the colleges will be carried out by private personnel within the locus of each college, thereby decreasing a substantial segment of the Postal Service's present work load in the City.
3. With regard to the concern about Postal vehicles being ticketed during deliveries, the City Manager should meet with the Director of Traffic and Parking to explore the viability of creating a strictly enforced time framework wherein a Postal vehicle, with emergency flashers engaged, might be permitted to park for a period of no more than five minutes for completion of a delivery without being ticketed; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That this City Council expresses support for the above referenced initiatives and directs the City Manager to communicate them to the appropriate persons involved as soon as possible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council by November 20, 1989 with a status update regarding implementation of these suggestions.

In City Council October 23, 1989.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton
Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.



United States
Postal Service

September 19, 1989

Mr. Robert Healy
City Manager
Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge, Ma 02139

RECEIVED
89 SEP 28 AM 9:44
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Dear Mr. Healy,

Since becoming Manager of the Cambridge Post Offices in March 1989, customer complaints have been reduced by at least 80 percent.

The Postal Service still has a manpower problem in Cambridge due to the lack of parking. This subject has been brought to your attention in the past and is still a major factor in service to the community. At any one time we have 15 percent vacancies and another 5 or 10 percent waiting to bid out.

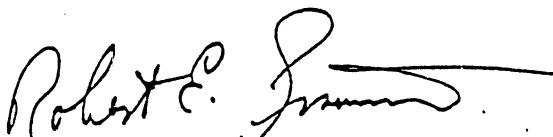
We are trying to tackle this problem right now. We are looking for alternative parking and possibly moving some of the Postal functions out of Central Square. Also the Postal Service appreciates the help you have been in this area. However, there is still a need for some additional assistance from you.

I must take this time to point out some of the problems we are experiencing in trying to make deliveries in Cambridge.

1. The seasonal turnover of residents. Many do not give change of addresses.
2. The poor condition of some sidewalks in particular the approaches between public sidewalks and residences.
3. Single family houses converted to dormitories or multiple apartments. Most containing common door slots and unlisted tenants.
4. We are the only community in the country that handles college students mail. This is done by the colleges themselves everywhere else.
5. We are not being treated as other companies giving service to the community; AT&T, Edison, Gas Co or private trucking companies that are allowed to park and make deliveries without being ticketed.

I have only touched the surface but I think the point is made. It all comes down to cooperation. I plead with you and the City Council to cooperate with us. Between the both of us, taking the problems head on, we can give the community the best service possible.

If I can be of any help to you or the council in mutually resolving any service problems please call me at 654-5800.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Simmons", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert E. Simmons
Manager
Cambridge "A" Branch
Cambridge, Ma 02139-9998

cc: Manager, Area II



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RESOLVED: That this Council expresses support for the above referenced initiatives and directs the City Manager to communicate them to the appropriate persons involved as soon as possible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the Council by November 20, 1989 with a status update regarding implementation of these suggestions.

(ATTACHMENT-Letter)



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Robert E. Simmons
Manager
Cambridge "A" Branch
Cambridge, Ma 02139-9998

cc: Manager, Area II

Order # 10 F- 473

Councillor Walsh re: upgrading postal service
in Cambridge.

In City Council,

October 23, 1989

*Order adopted
by 9 members*