

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

1995 JUL 10 AM 10:31

June 29, 1995
1 BRIDGE MA.
1 Chester Rd.
Belmont, Mass. 02178

City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Council members,

I wish it were possible for Cambridge to take a second look at most of its traffic lights; so many of them are not needed in these days of energy consciousness.

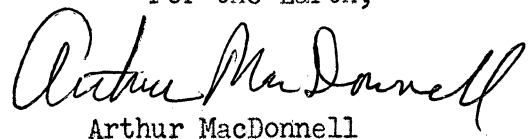
If Cambridge's purpose in having so many redundant and unnecessary signals is to slow down traffic, then the goal succeeds--all too well. The result is jammed intersections, angry drivers and immeasurable time lost.

I realize these signals are encouraged by the federal government, but the U.S. government rules are so broad as to be applied to large cities wide wide boulevards and logical street patterns as well as cities such as Cambridge with hodge-podge configurations. What applies in the Midwest doesn't necessarily apply around here, but you can't tell that to a federal bureaucrat intent on dispensing money.

In one small section of Cambridge alone, covering less than a mile, there are three traffic lights that could be eliminated without any loss to anyone and could result in only gains. The lights in front of the Buckingham Brown & Nichols School gymnasium, the light at the corner of Coolidge Avenue and Mount Auburn Street and the light at Star Market on Mount Auburn Street could be turned into pedestrian lights and would speed the traffic flow.

Remember, so many traffic lights not only discourage out-of-towners but also affect Cambridge drivers. If Cambridge drivers enjoy stop-and-go traffic, obscene gestures and four letter words hurled almost indiscriminately, then by all means the city should continue to do nothing. Perhaps Cambridge drivers are so used to gasoline fumes that they would prefer that nothing be done.

For the Earth,


Arthur MacDonnell

Consent Communication #4

SL 257

Comm was received from Arthur MacDonnell
requesting that the City study their traffic
lights because many are not needed in these energy
conscious times.

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
1995 JUL 10 AM 10:31
CAMBRIDGE MA.

In City Council July 31, 1995

Placed on file.