



City of Cambridge

5.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 28, 1997

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to refer the attached letter to the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation with a request that the issue of the intersection at Garden and Chauncy Streets be addressed as soon as possible.

In City Council April 28, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

April 7, 1997

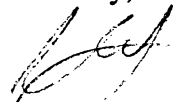
Katherine Triantafillou
City Councillor
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms. Triantafillou:

Thank you for your prompt attention in the matter of the traffic hazard at the intersection of Garden and Chauncy Streets (City Council Order of February 10, 1997). I write again because after seeing a number of accidents since your letter, including one this morning in which a car was flipped over (I do not know yet if it resulted in a fatality), I am certain that a sign at Garden Street requesting that the intersection not be blocked (the suggested remedy in the City Council Order) is simply not enough. Only a traffic signal at the intersection, or the complete closing of the Chauncy Street extension between Garden Street and Concord Avenue, will fully remedy the problem.

Please bring my letter to the attention of the Council. This matter must be addressed immediately to ensure that no accident worse than the many I have already seen occurs when something could have been done to prevent it.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Smith
29 Garden Street #111
Cambridge, MA 02138

KT

(5)

C.M. be + hereby is requested to refer

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April 7, 1997

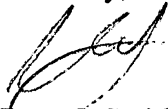
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Peter J. Smith
29 Garden Street #111
Cambridge, MA 02138



CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

(617) 349-4280

FAX (617) 349-4287

Katherine Triantafillou
City Councillor

March 19, 1997

Peter J. Smith
29 Garden Street, #11
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for writing me regarding your concerns about the traffic hazard at the corner of Garden and Chauncy Streets. This issue was the subject of a recent Council order and I believe the Department of Traffic and Transportation is looking into the matter. I will keep you informed of their response.

Thanks again for taking the time to write me. If I may be of further assistance to you, please let me know.

Yours truly,


KATHERINE TRIANTAFILLOU

kt:mh

City of Cambridge

15.

February 10, 1997

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
MAYOR RUSSELL
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Problems have been identified relative to the intersections of Garden and Chauncy Streets and Concord Avenue (see attached letter); now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation relative to remedying, the present difficulties at the intersections of Garden and Chauncy Streets and Concord Avenue said remedy may include placing a sign at Garden Street requesting that the intersection not be blocked.

In City Council February 10, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

D. Margaret Drury

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

97 FEB -5 PM 12:55

February 1, 1997

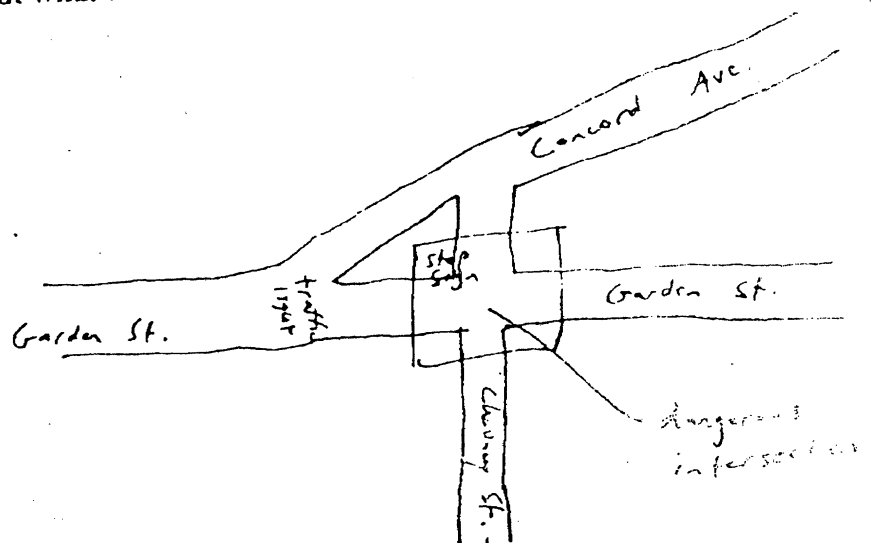
29 Garden Street #111
Cambridge, MA 02138

Cambridge City Council Office
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

To Whom it May Concern:

I write to inform you of a traffic hazard in Cambridge. The corner of Garden and Chauncy Streets has been the site of numerous car accidents since the traffic signal was installed a short distance away, where Concord Avenue and Garden Street meet. As a student, I am often home in the afternoon; in a period of roughly one month I have heard or seen about ten car accidents at the intersection.

The problem is that cars turn from Concord onto the short extension of Chauncy with the intention of continuing on across Garden Street and down Chauncy (presumably to Massachusetts Avenue). There is a stop sign for the cars wishing to cross Garden; however, at busy traffic times, cars traveling east on Garden line up at the light at the intersection of Garden and Concord, often far enough back to block the intersection of Garden and Chauncy. Cars on Chauncy that hope to cross Garden and continue on Chauncy must inch through an opening; however, their view of cars traveling west on Garden is impaired by the cars going east on Garden stopped at the light. The problem is compounded, moreover, by the way that the traffic signal at Concord and Garden is timed. When cars going east on Garden have a red light, the cars going west on Garden have a green. This means that while a car tries to pass through an opening in the cars headed east on Garden (who are stopped at the red light), cars are coming west towards the intersection, having just received a green light at the Garden and Concord intersection. This combination of traffic stopped in one direction, impairing the view of oncoming traffic, and cars accelerating from the green light coming from the other direction, has created a very dangerous intersection. For your convenience, I have sketched out what the intersection looks like below.



I am not certain what would remedy the problem; the light at Garden and Concord was a welcome addition for that previously dangerous intersection. However, the peculiar layout there has led to an even more dangerous intersection a short 50 yards away. Perhaps another light at the corner of Garden and Chauncy would help, or perhaps changing the timing of the extant light at Garden and Concord.

I am certain that if you check the police traffic reports for the last few months you will see the frequency of accidents at the intersection. I hope you will be able to take action to remedy the problem.

Thank you for your prompt attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Smith

cc: Department of Traffic and Parking
57 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

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Monday
February
1995

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

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EVENING

Sunday
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1995

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CONSTITUTION DAY [MEXICO]

JANUARY

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April 7, 1997

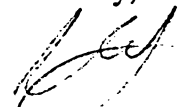
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IN CITY COUNCIL

April 28, 1997

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

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Born, Davis, Ouehay, Galluccio, Sullivan
Consent Order #5 *Toomey* CM-226

**Councillor Triantafillou re: The issue
of the intersection at Garden and
Chauncy Streets.**

In City Council April 28, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED