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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Traffic, Parking and Transportation
238 Broadway
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Susan E. Clippinger
Director
(617) 349-4700

Wayne S. Amaral
Traffic Engineering
(617) 349-4723

Memorandum

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager
Cc: Katherine Watkins, Project Manager
Juan Avendano, Traffic Calming Project Manager
From: Susan E. Clippinger, Traffic Director
Date: June 29, 2001
Re: City Council Order and Hansen #8038 (May 21, 2001) – Review alternative action that can be taken to slow traffic on Warren Street in addition to the trucks prohibition.

In response to the above City Council Order, The Traffic Engineering Division and the Traffic Calming Project Manager has conducted a site investigation and study of Warren Street. Our comments and findings are noted below.

The Traffic Engineering Division conducted three hours of vehicle speed data collecting on June 20, 2001. The Division sampled 887 vehicles and the average 85th percentile speed was 24 M.P.H. These vehicle speeds are 6 M.P.H. lower than the legal speed limit of 30 M.P.H. and is an estimated 4 M.P.H. lower than vehicle speed on a typical street within the City of Cambridge.

A regional truck study is being conducted to identify actions that will reduce the impact of truck traffic on residential neighborhoods in Cambridge and surrounding communities. One of the actions being considered is a 24-hour truck restriction on Cardinal Medeiros Avenue and Warren Street. Model results indicate that truck traffic will divert to the preferred truck route of Binney Street, First Street and Land Boulevard. When approved by the regional policy committee, the City of Cambridge will seek this restriction with Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Department.

As part of the Cambridge Street Reconstruction Project, the intersection of Cambridge Street at Warren Street will be reconstructed. The reconstruction will reduce speeds of vehicles turning onto Warren Street from Cambridge Street. A curb extension will be installed on Warren Street to reduce the crossing distance and improve pedestrian safety.

On a street like Warren Street with two sides of parking and only T-intersections, parking will likely be impacted by most of the traffic calming improvements. It will be important for residents of the street to evaluate the various options and decide what is appropriate for their street.

Warren Street has been added to the list of traffic calming project request and will be prioritized along with the other request receiving by the city.



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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

July 30, 2001

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 01-201, regarding a report on alternative action that can be taken to slow traffic on Warren Street in addition to the truck prohibition, received from Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec



2845

Consent Agenda #2

Awaiting Report Item
Number 01-201, regarding a
report on alternative action
that can be taken to slow
traffic on Warren Street in
addition to the truck
prohibition.

In City Council July 30, 2001

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