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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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

May 14, 2001

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 01-182, regarding a report on notifying abutters of sewer/water repairs or replacement, Acting Public Works Commissioner Richard Rossi reports the following:

Over the past several years all of the City's major sewer separation and stormwater contracts have required that abutters be notified any time a scheduled roadway or utility shutdown is planned. The DPW has taken extra steps in all of these areas, often notifying abutters several times before a utility shutdown occurs. These notifications have included not only water and sewer work but also the other impacted utilities such as electric, gas, telephone, and cable. In some of our smaller contracts such as the remedial reconstruction contract, it is often difficult to get notification to abutters due to the nature of the work. While this contract does have some scheduled work the majority of the work performed is done on an emergency basis and the duration is typically one to two days. As always, the DPW continues to be extremely limited with our issuance of permits which allow (City or private) contractors to close roadways. Unfortunately with any type of underground excavation and construction, unforeseen conditions often makes it impossible to avoid emergency shutdowns.

The DPW is committed to providing information to residents with regard to roadway closures, utility shutdowns, community meetings, or any other situations that impact communities. The Department will continue to send copies of notifications to City Council members.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy".
Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec



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Consent Agenda #2

Awaiting Report Item Number
01-182, regarding a report on
notifying abutters of sewer/water
repairs or replacement.

In City Council May 14, 2001

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