



**CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
ANIMAL COMMISSION**

51 INMAN STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

498-9041

April 25, 1980

GINGER GAY
Director

CAPTAIN JOSEPH CUSACK
Cambridge Police Department
Assistant Director

JEAN CROCKETT
Project Coordinator

KEVIN DOHERTY
Health and Hospitals

JOHN CORCORAN
ELLEN KIRCHHEIMER
PAUL PURCELL

Ms. Darlene Schaefer
122 Trowbridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Ms. Schaefer:

Mayor Dushay transferred your letter of April 20th to us at the Animal Commission. We hope that our reply will help you understand both the extent of the dog problems we face in Cambridge and the progress we have made to alleviate those problems.

We are most surprised that you were unaware of the Cambridge leash/curb law, Ordinance 922. Since the ordinance passed June 25, 1979, we have run notices of the ordinance on page one of the Cambridge Chronicle. The Chronicle has also printed feature stories on the Animal Commission and ordinance 922 on the following dates: June 7, 1979, June 28, 1979 and April 24, 1980. (Copies enclosed) Public Works has affixed signs that clearly explain the law in all parks, playgrounds and cemeteries. There are two such signs on the lawn in front of City Hall. In September 1979 we arranged to have the enclosed pamphlet, 'What Is the Cambridge Animal Commission' mailed to all Cambridge residents in their electric bills. The back page of the pamphlet explains the ordinance and fine system.

Your confusion about Fresh Pond is understandable. The attached map and set of laws for the reservation should ease your confusion. Kingsley Park is off limits to dogs, voice command is appropriate for the walkway around the Pond.

The public strongly believes in the leash law and feels that voice command is not adequate supervision of an animal. A leash is the most effective means of protecting the safety of dogs, motorists and pedestrians. It also assures that an animal is curbed. The freezer at Public Works is constantly packed with dead dogs; none have a leash attached to their collars.

Ms. Darlene Schaefer

Page 2

The City Councillors have told us that dogs are their number one complaint. Up until March 17, 1980 we have had but one dog officer to cover the entire city. Since March 17th, with the hiring of John Manuel, we have had two. We are most pleased with his performance and his humane attitude toward animals. We expect these officers to be diligent in their duties -- picking up strays and injured animals, attending court sessions and issuing citations.

We appreciate your taking the time to express your feelings and hope our letter is of help to you.

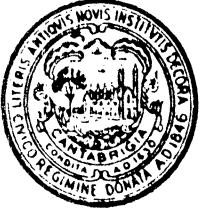
Sincerely,

Ginger Gay
Director

Jean Crockett
Project Coordinator

Attachments

cc: Mayor Francis Duehay
Captain Joseph Cusack, Cambridge Police Department
Animal Control
✓ Cambridge City Councillors



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Captain Joseph Cusack, Cambridge Police Department
Animal Control
✓ Cambridge City Councillors

16 S-221

Copy of communication from the Animal Commission to Ms. Darlene Schaefer re: leash law.

In City Council,

May 5, 1980

5/5/1980

Placed on File