

HARLAND A. RIKER JR. BY  
114 BRATTLE STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02138

RECEIVED BY  
CITY CLERK  
1995 OCT 11 AM 11:07  
CAMBRIDGE MA.

October 10, 1995

City Clerk  
City of Cambridge  
City Hall  
795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Brattle Street Truck Traffic

Dear Sir:

As I will be abroad and unable to attend the Public Meeting on Truck Traffic on October 23rd, I want to go on record with my views on this serious and growing problem on Brattle Street.

The problem is that of unrestricted heavy trucks that hurtle up and down Brattle Street ignoring speed limits and causing damage and distress to houses and residents. These include all manner of heavy trucks, huge tractor trailers, oil tankers and construction vehicles. They travel at wildly excessive speeds, usually after dark and early morning hours when the street is less patrolled. They make a terrible noise, rattle windows and shake the foundations of houses built close to the road.

At our house this mounting flow of heavy truck traffic has caused cracks and damage to our basement walls, and to the concrete front walkway and steps that we have had to repair and re-repair every couple of years. Beyond the damage to our house, the sudden bursts of noise and window rattling at night is terribly distressing, particularly to older residents. Finally--and perhaps most worrying--the scale of this problem has increased steadily over the years as more and more such heavy vehicles apparently use Brattle Street as their main entry and egress to Harvard Square--and they travel at ever more excessive speeds.

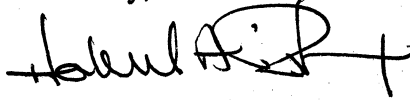
The solution, I believe, must include a **ban on the heaviest huge vehicles** from Brattle Street, and the enforcement of speed limits at night. To enforce reasonable speed in this intensely residential area, I believe there should be erected "sleeping policemen" on Brattle Street, as many cities have done as the

October 10, 1995  
page 2  
City Clerk  
City of Cambridge

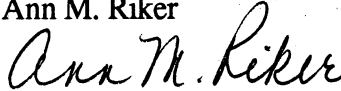
only practical means of restricting excessive speeds after dark and early morning hours.

I would appreciate it if these views were entered as written testimony at the public hearings on October 23rd.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harland A. Riker, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Harland A. Riker, Jr.  
Ann M. Riker

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann M. Riker", written in a cursive style.

cc: Ms. Kathleen L. Born  
City Councillor

Consent Communication #13

Communication was received from  
Harland A. Riker, Jr. and Ann M.  
Riker transmitting their views  
on the serious and growing  
problem of truck traffic on  
Brattle Street.

S-  
334

In City Council October 16, 1995

*Referred to hearing on  
October 23, 1995*