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## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ROBERT W. HEALY  
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI  
Deputy City Manager

January 7, 1991

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Reports #50, #52 and #87 regarding the Street Performers Ordinance, please be advised that, overall, there have been very few problems in its enforcement.

The Arts Council has been consistently spot checking noise levels in the Harvard Square Area since the beginning of November, using its own sound meter. These checks take place two to three evenings Monday - Friday, and one weekend afternoon each week. At no time have they found a violation of the noise level in the ordinance. Testable sound levels have been found to be well within the ordinance standards and blend into the general noise level of the Square at a 50 ft. distance.

Performers, particularly on busy evenings, do tend to be closer than 50 ft. from one another however, with few exceptions, these "acts" do not impinge on one another; when there has been an overlap, the performers have readily moved off to allow for proper spacing.

On several occasions the Arts Council has investigated the complaint of a loud band playing at Winthrop Park, as stated in Council Order #5 of September 17, 1990, but to date has not located the band in question. Each time the Arts Council monitors in the Square, the band has not been set up in Winthrop Park.

According to the Police Department, every officer assigned on a regular basis to Harvard Square has been provided with a copy of the ordinance, and has been briefed on enforcement of the ordinance by the Lieutenant at roll-call. This took place both during the summer and the holiday season.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager

Agenda # 4

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Awaiting Report Item Numbers 50, 52 and 87  
regarding the Street Performers Ordinance.

In City Council,

January 7, 1991

*Placed on file*