

VICE MAYOR LAROSA

#18 OCT. 21, 1988

Whereas It is the intention of the MBTA
to relocate the Lechmere MBTA STATION

Whereas The proposed relocation site of the
LECHMER MBTA STATION would necessitate
the crossing of McGrath Highway ~~by~~ daily by
thousands of ~~the~~ prospective users, riders

Whereas McGrath Highway is without doubt one
of the most traveled highways in the
area,

Whereas It is the responsibility of ~~the~~ government
and its agencies to insure the safety
of the general public on its highways
and public transportation facilities

Be it Ordained That the City Manager be requested
to confer with MBTA officials ~~in order~~^{to express}
~~that their decision~~ ~~that~~ the need for the MBTA to construct a
modern, well-lit, escalator-served pedestrian
footbridge across ~~the~~ McGrath Highway
~~the~~

October 8, 1985

EAST CAMBRIDGE STABILIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o P.O. Box 302
East Cambridge, MA 02141

Commissioner James F. O'Leary, General Manager
MBTA
10 Park Plaza
Boston, Ma 02116

Dear Mr. O'Leary,

The East Cambridge Stabilization Committee has voted to ask you to reconsider your decision not to build a footbridge across the McGrath Highway to the new Lechmere MBTA station. We believe that a bridge will be necessary to provide safe access for the thousands of people from East Cambridge and the riverfront area who will use the new station each day. We agree with the position stated in the June 28, 1985 letter to you from Mr. John Maddalo President of the East Cambridge Planning Team. He correctly states that the Lechmere station should not be moved unless adequate plans are made to build a modern, well-lit, escalator-served pedestrian footbridge across the McGrath Highway.

We fear that our safety is being sacrificed for the MBTA's convenience. We suspect that the MBTA's refusal to build a footbridge is based in large part on the T's wish to protect itself from potential liability. Even if a footbridge would be far safer for the public than an on-grade crossing, the T could be liable if people are injured on a bridge. If people are killed or injured crossing the MDC's highway, the MBTA will be protected. Even with signals and roadway improvements, crossing the McGrath, especially at rush hour, will be risky. Who will protect us? We strongly believe that the one million dollar expense of a footbridge is small compared to the potential social cost of providing us no safe passage. Whoever is ultimately liable, the burden of bad planning falls on us. We, not you, will be dodging the traffic on the McGrath.

At your earliest convenience representatives of the East Cambridge Stabilization Committee and Planning Teams would like to meet with you to further discuss our concerns.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Thomas Weed, Chairperson
East Cambridge Stabilization Committee



City of Cambridge

18.

VICE-MAYOR LAROSA

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 21, 1985

- WHEREAS: It is the intention of the MBTA to relocate the Lechmere Station; and
- WHEREAS: The proposed relocation site of the Lechmere MBTA Station would necessitate the crossing of McGrath Highway daily by thousands of prospective riders; and
- WHEREAS: McGrath Highway is without doubt one of the most traveled highways in the area; and
- WHEREAS: It is the responsibility of government and its agencies to insure the safety of the general public on its highways and public transportation facilities; therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with MBTA officials to express the need for the MBTA to construct a modern, well-lit, escalator-served pedestrian footbridge across McGrath Highway.

In City Council October 21, 1985.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

F-352

VM LaRosa order re: in view of the MBTA's
intention to relocate the Lechmere Station
that the City Manager confer with MBTA
officials Re: need for MBTA construction
of a modern, well-lit pedestrian footbridge
across McGrath Highway.

In City Council,

October 21, 1985

10/21/85

Carla Rosa

Adopted

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