

110
February 1, 1988

Councillor Russell

whereas: The Middlesex County Commissioners
considered five separate petitions regarding the
alteration, relocation, repair + form ^{the discontinuance of portions of} Old County Road and Winter
Street in Lincoln and Waltham on
December 1, 1987 and will reconvene this
public hearing on February 2, 1988; and

whereas: Both of the locations are close to the
edge of valuable drinking water sources:
Hobbs Brook Basin + the Cambridge
Reservoir each of which is vital to the
City of Cambridge; and

whereas: under M.G.L.C. 82 §§ 1-16 authority is
granted to the Board of Commissioners to
retain jurisdiction over natural
resources; and

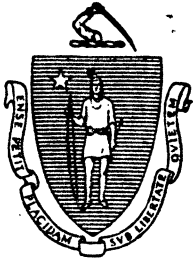
whereas: For decisions to be made of this
magnitude all pertinent information
should be provided; now therefore
be it

ORDERED: That this City Council go on record

requesting the Middlesex County Commissioners:

- 1.) To delay ruling on any of the five petitions until an environment impact report and a traffic study are completed regarding the site,
- 2.) If said reports illustrate that a particular route or routes would significantly harm these drinking water sources, to reject the petitions associated with such route or routes; and
- 3.) If the Board deems it necessary to take immediate action, then we urge the denial of all of the petitions, especially the three petitions to discontinue portions of Old County Road & Winter Street; and be it further

ORDERED: that the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Middlesex County Commissioners prior to the February 2, 1988 hearing.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

SENATOR
MICHAEL J. BARRETT
MIDDLESEX AND SUFFOLK
DISTRICT
ALLSTON-BRIGHTON, BELMONT
CAMBRIDGE AND WATERTOWN
ROOM 405
TEL. 722-1280

COMMITTEES:
LOCAL AFFAIRS (CHAIR)
COUNTIES
EDUCATION
ELECTION LAWS
HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT
PUBLIC SAFETY
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
LONG RANGE POLICY PLANNING
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

January 26, 1988

The Honorable Sheila Russell
5 Hawthorne Park
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Sheila:

I'm sure you're already aware of potential danger to the Cambridge Reservoir from the mammoth commercial development proposed for a site located along Old County Road in Waltham.

I've enclosed a copy of a letter from the entire Cambridge legislative delegation to the Middlesex County Commissioners expressing the joint concerns of the delegation. It's important that Cambridge present a united front to the Middlesex County Commissioners and to all boards considering future applications by the developer, Boston Properties.

The Middlesex County Commissioners will meet on February 2, 1988, to consider various petitions to widen and to discontinue portions of area roads. Despite the short time remaining before the hearing, I'd like to suggest that the City Council or individual councillors go on record in favor of the city's position.

I don't need to tell you that the Cambridge Reservoir is vital to Cambridge or that it's overtaxed in terms of daily consumption and already overstressed by the use of road salts and by other contaminants from area traffic. Members of the City Council have taken the lead in stressing environmental priorities and your point of view will attract a great deal of respect from the County Commissioners.

Very truly yours,
Michael J. Barrett
Michael J. Barrett
State Senator
Middlesex and Suffolk



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

SENATOR
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MIDDLESEX AND SUFFOLK
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COMMITTEES:
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PUBLIC SAFETY

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
LONG RANGE PLANNING
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

January 25, 1988

Thomas J. Larkin
Chairman
The Honorable County Commissioners
County of Middlesex
40 Thorndike Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

Re: Petitions of the Inhabitants of the Town of Lincoln and
of the City of Waltham for the Alteration, Relocation and
Repair and for the Discontinuance of Portions of Old County
Road and Winter Street in Lincoln and Waltham

Dear Chairman Larkin:

We, the undersigned members of the Cambridge legislative
delegation, understand that five separate petitions concerning
Old County Road and Winter Street were considered by the
Middlesex County Commissioners on December 1, 1987, and that
the public hearing held on that date was continued until
February 2, 1988.

As you know, both Old County Road in Lincoln and Winter Street
in Waltham are located close to the edge of valuable drinking
water sources: Hobbs Brook Basin and the Cambridge Reservoir,
respectively. Each of these water sources is vital to the City
of Cambridge, the second largest community in Middlesex
County.

The importance of these irreplaceable natural resources compels
us to urge you to retain jurisdiction, pursuant to M.G.L.c. 82,
§§ 1-16, over the two petitions to alter, repair or relocate
portions of Old County Road and Winter Street until additional
information has been supplied to you. We believe that you
should require that a traffic study/environmental report be
performed and provided to you which (1) sets forth the

projected maximum number of motor vehicle trips per day over each of these roads, should the two petitions be allowed, based upon the maximum allowable build-out of the adjacent 61.35 acres of land owned by Boston Properties and Conant Road Associates Limited Partnership ("Boston Properties"); and (2) describes the projected environmental impact of the traffic upon Hobbs Brook Basin and the Cambridge Reservoir.

In our view, it is impossible to make a finding of whether or not the "common convenience and necessity" requires the allowance of any of the five petitions without first determining the impact that the allowance of each petition would have upon such strategic sources of drink water. Therefore, we formally request that you delay ruling on any of the five petitions until an environmental impact report and a traffic study are completed regarding the site. Furthermore, should these reports illustrate that a particular route or routes would significantly harm these drinking water sources, we formally urge you to reject the petitions associated with such route or routes.

If you would prefer instead to take immediate action, then we urge you to deny all of the petitions, especially the three petitions to discontinue portions of Old County Road and Winter Street. Allowance of one or more of the petitions to discontinue could result in rerouting all traffic directly to Winter Street in Waltham, along the edge of the Cambridge Reservoir. This would improperly channel future access to the 61.35 acres owned by Boston Properties along a route which would most harshly impact Hobbs Brook Basin and the Cambridge Reservoir.

We would like to add that the communities of Weston and Waltham have an interest in protecting the water sources presently used exclusively by Cambridge. In doing so, these communities protect their own drinking water supply which they share in common, namely, the system managed jointly by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and the Metropolitan District Commission ("MWRA/MDC"). If Cambridge were to lose its independent water source due to contamination, the city would be forced to exercise its contingent right to enter the MWRA/MDC system. The overburdening of this system would have disastrous implications for everyone.

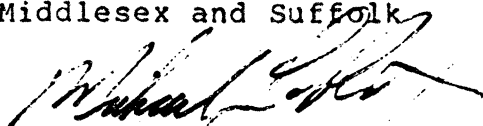
Middlesex County Commissioners
Page Three

Please use your good offices to do everything in your power to ensure that Hobbs Brook Basin and the Cambridge Reservoir are not significantly damaged or lost forever as drinking water sources.

Very truly yours,

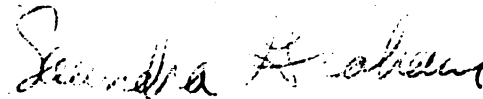


Michael J. Barrett
State Senator
Middlesex and Suffolk

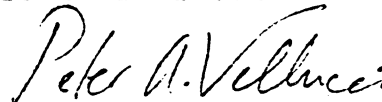


Michael Lopresti, Jr.
State Senator
Suffolk and Middlesex

Charles F. Flaherty
State Representative
27th Middlesex



Sandra Graham
State Representative
28th Middlesex



Peter A. Vellucci
State Representative
29th Middlesex

cc: Bill Schmidt
Michael E. McLaughlin



City of Cambridge

10.

IN CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR RUSSELL

February 1, 1988

- WHEREAS: The Middlesex County Commissioners considered five separate petitions regarding the alteration, relocation and repair for the discontinuance of portions of Old County Road and Winter Street in Lincoln and Waltham on December 1, 1987, and will reconvene this public hearing on February 2, 1988; and
- WHEREAS: Both of the locations are close to the edge of valuable drinking water sources: Hobbs Brook Basin and the Cambridge Reservoir, each of which is vital to the City of Cambridge; and
- WHEREAS: Under M.G.L., Chapter 82, Subsection 1-16, authority is granted to the Board of Commissioners to retain jurisdiction over natural resources; and
- WHEREAS: For decisions to be made of this magnitude, all pertinent information should be provided; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That this City Council go on record requesting the Middlesex County Commissioners:
1. to delay ruling on any of the five petitions until an environmental impact report and a traffic study are completed regarding the site;
 2. if said reports illustrate that a particular route or routes would significantly harm these drinking water sources, to reject the petitions associated with such route or routes; and
 3. if the Board deems it necessary to take immediate action, then we urge the denial of all of the petitions, especially the three petitions to discontinue portions of Old County Road and Winter Street; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Middlesex County Commissioners prior to the February 2, 1988 hearing.

In City Council February 1, 1988.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton
 Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

Order #10

S-52

C. Russell order re: City Council go on record requesting the Middlesex County Commissioners to delay ruling on any of 5 petitions concerning the alternation, relocation or repair for the discontinuance of portions of Old County Road & Winter Street in Lincoln & Waltham, on February 2, 1988.

In City Council,

February 1, 1988

C. Russell
A
V/V