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PROPOSED PROCEDURE FOR INFORMING AND ENFORCING OF SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL ORDINANCE

- I. A Copy of the attached notice informing the property owners of the existence of a Snow and Ice Removal Ordinance will be mailed with the property tax bill.
- II. A Warning Violation Notice (attached) will be affixed to the property in violation by the Parking Control Supervisors. A duplicate copy of the warning will be kept by the Parking Control Supervisor and checked the next day. If the violation still exists, the City Solicitor will be notified and will make application for a criminal complaint immediately.
- III. A separate "Snow-Line" (telephone) will be installed at the Public Works Department for citizen reports of violations or other snow related matters.
- IV. The Commissioner of Public Works will make appropriate arrangements to insure that the sidewalks around public property are not in violation and are cleared at the earliest possible time.
- V. The Cambridge Office of Manpower Affairs will maintain a list of individuals who will shovel, on call, for a fee.

VI. A Public Relations effort will be conducted via newspapers, radio, T.V., and bill boards to inform the public.

VII. The City Manager's Office will be responsible for coordinating the efforts of other departments:

City Manager's Office	Bob Healy
Public Works	Phil Meskinis
Police	Lt. Paolillo
Traffic	Lauren Preston
COMA	Joe Fisher

W A R N I N G

This Property is in violation
of the Snow Removal Ordinance
of the City of Cambridge.

Violation of this Ordinance
shall be subject to a Fine
not exceeding Fifty (50) dollars

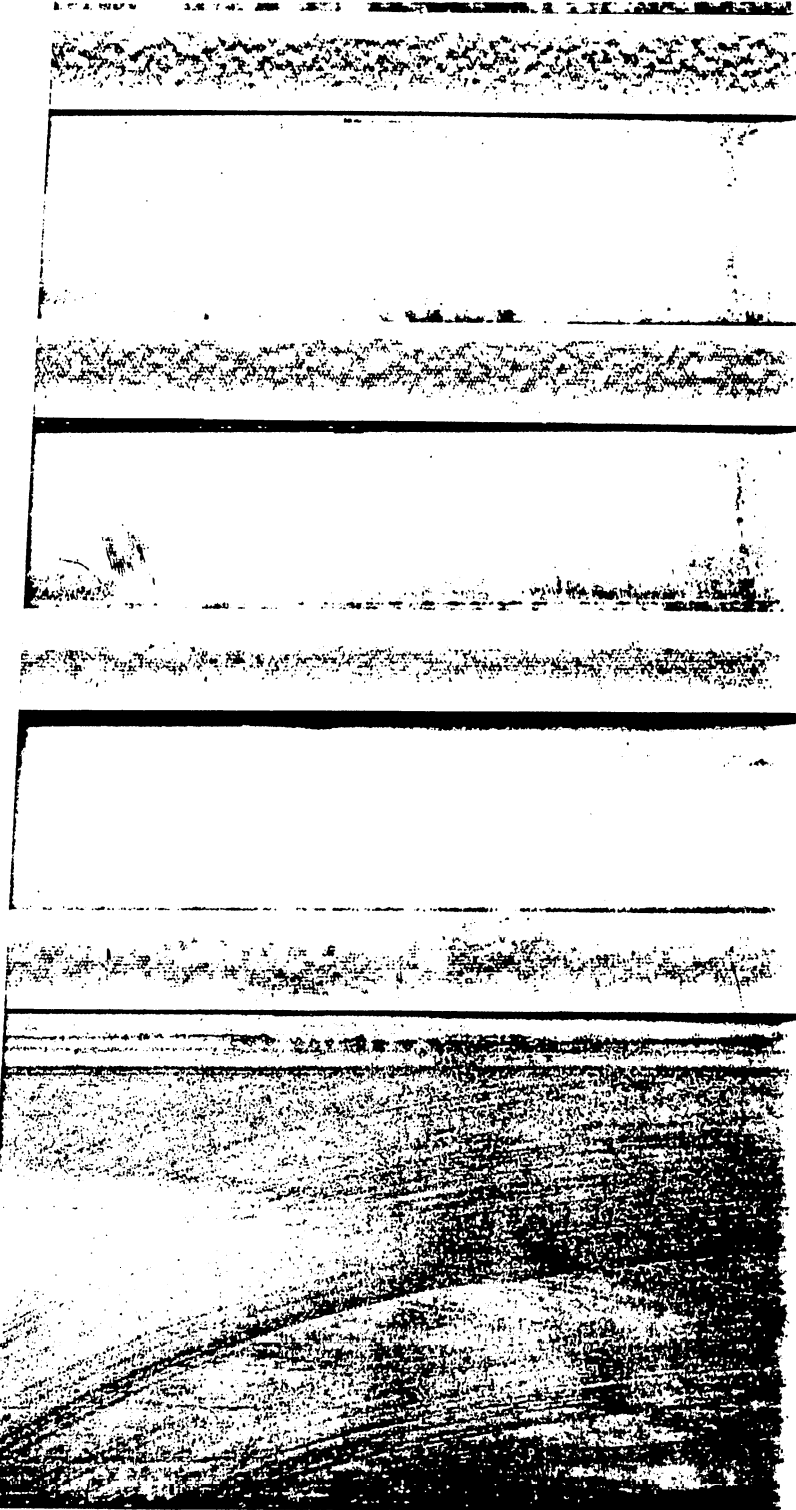
FAILURE TO CLEAN SIDEWALK

The Owner or Occupant of Private
Property is Required to keep the
Sidewalk clear of ice and snow.

Number _____ Street _____

Date _____

A.M.
P.M.
Time _____





CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

• (617) 876-6800

LAW DEPARTMENT

RUSSELL B. HIGLEY
CITY SOLICITOR

RUSSELL B. HIGLEY

EDWARD A. CUNNINGHAM
ANDREW T. TRODDEN
LEGAL COUNSEL

CHARLES A. WATSON
LEGISLATIVE AGENT

RESPONSIBILITY OF OWNER OR OCCUPANT FOR SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

You are hereby notified that Chapter 17, Article II, Section 17-79, of the Ordinances of the City of Cambridge reads as follows:

Sec. 17-79. Responsibilities of owners or occupants for snow and ice removal.

(a) Removal of snow from sidewalks. The owner or occupant of private property bordering on a street where there is a sidewalk or footway shall, within twelve (12) hours after snow ceases to fall in the daytime and before 1:00 P. M. after a fall of snow during the night, cause all snow that may be on such sidewalk or footway to be removed therefrom. In the event of an unusually heavy snowfall, the time limit shall be extended at the discretion of the Commissioner of Public Works. The provisions of this Section shall apply to snow which falls from buildings as well as to that which falls from the clouds.

(b) Removal of ice from sidewalks. The owner or occupant of private property bordering on a street where there is a sidewalk or footway any portion of which is encumbered by ice shall within six (6) hours after the sidewalk or footway becomes encumbered with ice cause such sidewalk or footway to be made safe and convenient by removing the ice therefrom, or by keeping the same covered with sand or some other suitable substance.

Sec. 17-80. Penalty.

(b) Any person who violated Section 17-79 of this Article shall be subject to a fine not exceeding Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars. Each days violation shall constitute a separate offense.

You are requested forthwith to comply with the requirements of the Ordinance or a citation for violation will be sought in the Cambridge District Court.

RUSSELL B. HIGLEY
CITY SOLICITOR

City of Cambridge

Committee Report

Elder Affairs

Monday, September 19, 1977

Walnut Room, City Hall

Mayor Vellucci and Councillors Ackermann, Duehay, Clem, Russell, Clinton
and Danehy - Present

Meeting Convened by Mayor Vellucci at 6:05 P. M.

Mayor Vellucci opened the meeting by requesting Assistant City Manager Robert Healy to submit his proposal for the enforcement of the City Ordinance relative to the removal of snow and ice from the sidewalks.

PROPOSAL

Mr. Healy submitted the proposal (see attached) which indicated, among other things, that Parking Control Officers will be utilized this winter in issuing a warning that a property is in violation of the snow removal ordinance by virtue of not having the sidewalk cleared of snow and ice. A copy of which will be maintained for 1 day by the Parking Control Officer who will check the location to determine if the property in question is still in violation. If the violation still exists, the City Solicitor will be notified and will make application for a criminal complaint immediately. Further, copies of the ordinance will be included in the tax bills which will soon go out to all property owners.

A separate "Snow-Line" telephone will be installed at the Public Works Department for citizens to report violations or other snow related matters. Also, the Cambridge Office of Manpower Affairs will maintain a list of individuals who will shovel, on call, for a fee. A public relations effort will be conducted via newspapers, radio, T. V. and billboards to inform the public. Mr. Healy also indicated that the City Manager's Office will be responsible for coordinating the efforts of other appropriate departments.

COMMENTS

George Teso, Director of Traffic and Parking, stated that he felt using Parking Control Officers for issuing warning violation notices would deter his people from performing their primary function of issuing citations for parking violations. He felt they would ultimately be involved in appearing at court should these violations be prosecuted. Mr. Teso indicated that he was not opposed to doing this, however, he felt that it was clearly the responsibility of the Police Department.

Councillor Ackermann stated that this was a serious problem to all Cambridge residents, particularly the elderly and handicapped. Having worked closely with representatives of various departments and citizens groups, she felt that this proposal was the most reasonable and expeditious way to resolve this problem.

Councillors Duehay and Clinton both agreed that by utilizing Traffic Control Officers you may jeopardize or certainly weaken the effectiveness of the already successful parking control program.

City of Cambridge

In addition, Councillor Duehay expressed a strong belief that the Police Department should be carrying out this program. He emphasized that enforcement of city ordinances is the function of the Police Department.

Various suggestions were offered by members of the public in attendance, including utilizing Parking Control Officers for issuance of the initial warning with follow-up by the Police Department; as well as an effort be made to deal with snow on crosswalks at intersections; as well as cases in which the city has plowed snow back on to already cleared sidewalks; and the use of CETA workers for enforcement of this ordinance.

In conclusion Mayor Vellucci stated that it is the responsibility of all city officials to execute the policy established by the City Council and therefore if this proposal is adopted by the Council the program to enforce the sidewalk snow removal ordinance will be implemented.

RECOMMENDATION

It was agreed by the Committee that the proposal as submitted by the City Manager's Office was beneficial and workable. Therefor the Committee refers said proposal to the full City Council for action.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:55 P. M.

For the Committee,



Mayor Alfred E. Vellucci
Chairman

Comm. from Mayor Alfred E. Vellucci transmitting a report of the Committee on Elder Affairs.

9/26/77

Report to the
Calendar for October
2nd on Motion of
Mayor Vellucci

In City Council,

Sept. 26, 1977

Meeting at 6 PM
Letter to Atty Gen
for Required
Ordinance Amendments