

0-22

Toomey, Timothy - Rep

From: Lois Oberlander [lboc.hms@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2002 4:06 PM
To: Council@CI.Cambridge.MA.US
Subject: train track crossing

I was traveling out of the Fresh Pond shopping strip parking area. I was exiting the rear exit of the parking lot, near the Loew's cinema. I have traveled this way many times, crossing the railroad track, and not thinking much about the fact that it was a railroad track.

Today, the car ahead of me stopped, as did I, because a train was coming. This might seem unremarkable news; however, there is no sign warning cars of the railroad crossing, nor is there a railroad stop sign (the lights that blink red on one side and then the other), telling traffic to stop. This seems to be an unnecessary hazard, especially in light of the fact that the Loew's cinema draws a crowd of children and teenagers because of the nature of their movie choices.

I may be over-reacting, but the mother of one of my friends was killed when her car was struck by a train. This circumstances were similar insofar as there was no signage and no lights to warn oncoming cars of the train.

Today is the first day I've ever seen a train on this track, so if this is a rarely used track, then perhaps nothing is needed. However, if this is a commonly used track, it seems to me that it is quite unsafe.

Lois Condie, citizen of Cambridge
617-576-6996

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS

2002 JUL 25 P 2: 14



City of Cambridge

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IN CITY COUNCIL

July 29, 2002

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
 VICE MAYOR DAVIS
 COUNCILLOR DECKER
 COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
 COUNCILLOR MAHER
 COUNCILLOR MURPHY
 COUNCILLOR REEVES
 COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
 MAYOR SULLIVAN

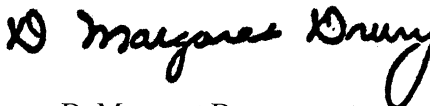
WHEREAS: The train track at the New Street exit to the Fresh Pond Shopping Center is apparently still used occasionally, although it is not clear how often (see attached letter); and

WHEREAS: Many residents assume that the track is not in use, and there is no sign warning of a railroad crossing; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation, the MBTA and any other appropriate staff and/or agency to determine how often the tracks are used and to install signage and/or warning lights appropriate to the level of usage.

In City Council July 29, 2002.
 Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
 Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- 

D. Margaret Drury
 City Clerk

CM-117

ORDER # 22

Requesting the City Manager to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation, the MBTA and any other appropriate staff and/or agency to determine how often the train tracks at Fresh Pond Shopping Center are used and to install signage and/or warning lights appropriate to the level of usage.

Councillor Toomey

In City Council July 29, 2002

ORDER ADOPTED.