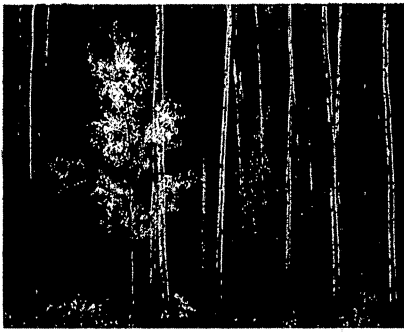




by Ansel Adams in *This Is the American Earth*

City Council

SIERRA CLUB

Mills Tower, San Francisco 94104

Greater Boston Group Transportation Committee
c/o Peter Koff
252 Harvard Street
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

October 1, 1972

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Dear Madame Mayor and Councillors:

This letter is to request your continued opposition to the Massachusetts Department of Public Works' plans for reconstruction and widening of Route 2 in Lincoln and Concord. These plans would severely impact the Cambridge water supply by the required taking of 40 acres from the Hobbs Brook Reservoir and by increasing pollutant and salt run-offs into the reservoir. The DPW proposal would also aggravate the already serious traffic congestion in the Fresh Pond area where Route 2 terminates.

On June 19, 1972, your Honorable Body by a vote of 7 to 0 recorded itself in opposition to the proposed land-taking from the reservoir. Your opposition was an important factor in the defeat of the legislation then pending in the General Court.

Currently the DPW has circulated a draft environmental impact statement on the Route 2 reconstruction. A public hearing will be held at the Concord High School on October 11th, and written comments are due by October 24th. The Governor is expected to make a decision by January on whether to proceed with the Route 2 project as it is now planned.

The draft environmental impact statement is totally inadequate. It fails to discuss in detail alternatives to the proposed project and the serious adverse environmental impacts this plan would cause. The draft statement almost totally ignores the impacts on the City of Cambridge from the land-taking from the reservoir. It does not even discuss the effects of increased traffic on the streets of Cambridge.

The Sierra Club respectfully urges that you take appropriate action to insure that the City of Cambridge's views on this project are fully communicated to the responsible state and federal officials. We would be happy to assist in any possible way.

Sincerely,
Peter Koff
Peter Koff

cc: John H. Corcoran
City Manager

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A request of continued opposition to
the Massachusetts Department of Public
Works; Plans for reconstruction and
widening of Route 2 in Lincoln & Concord

Placed on file -
October 2, 1972