



City of Cambridge

--81--

Calendar Item # 11

IN CITY COUNCIL

~~November 5, 1990~~

November 19, 1990

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY

RESOLVED: The Cambridge City Council recognizes that the proposed "Scheme Z" crossing of the Charles River as part of the proposed Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel Project will have a severe negative impact on significant recreational, cultural and historic resources. Accordingly, it must be stopped. Specifically, the Cambridge City Council finds and resolves as follows:

1. The entire Charles River Basin, including that portion of the Millers River located within the Basin and the waterway itself, is a major public parkland, cultural and historic resource. The Basin has been designated as a park since 1909. The Basin, with its esplanades and parks on both sides of the river, has historically been a major environmental resource for Cambridge residents. The Council is in favor of protecting and improving that resource, not relegating it to a transportation corridor.
2. The proposed Scheme Z will destroy the mouth of the Charles River Basin. The proposed Charles River crossing will create a low dark roof over the Charles. It will create an environment that cannot support parkland and recreational uses. Instead of water and green space, future generations will be greeted with shadow, concrete, air pollution and intense noise. Recreational use of the part of the Basin affected Scheme Z will be completely eliminated.
3. In addition, the proposed Scheme Z will be, in the words of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the "single, ugliest structure in New England." Instead of the mouth of the Charles constituting a scenic connection between historic Charlestown and the Cambridge and Boston communities, it will become a blighted area. This will negatively affect existing residential areas and future development in East Cambridge and at North Point.
4. The proposed Scheme Z will constitute actual and constructive use of important parkland, historic, cultural and recreational areas in Cambridge, Charlestown and Boston.

5. The proposed Scheme Z clearly violates Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. There are many prudent and feasible alternatives to Scheme Z. In particular, an all-tunnel crossing of the Charles River is prudent and feasible and must be studied as an alternative. We urge this alternative to be selected as the preferred alternative. The problems with Scheme Z cannot be mitigated without radical change. The proposals to date for mitigation by the Commonwealth do not come close to being an effective plan environmental mitigation.
6. Scheme Z will create a tremendous amount of air and noise pollution in Cambridge, especially in East Cambridge. The Environmental Impact Report for the Central Artery fails to adequately describe such impacts. Plumes of air pollution from the millions of cars utilizing Scheme Z will create a health risk in Cambridge. Scheme Z will tremendously increase the number of vehicle miles traveled in Cambridge. This added air pollution is completely unacceptable.
7. Scheme Z also violates the 97th Article of Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution which prohibits the use of public parklands for an inconsistent purpose without a two-thirds roll call vote of each house of the state legislature. The Cambridge City Council is adamantly opposed to any such inconsistent use and urges all Cambridge state representatives and senators to vote against any authorization for the inconsistent purpose.
8. The City Council finds the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Report ("DSEIS/R") for the Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel project to be completely inadequate. It must be changed to include a full discussion of all reasonable alternatives for the Charles River Crossing, including the all-tunnel alternative.
9. The Cambridge City Council is adamantly opposed to any continuing construction in Charlestown and at the site of the new Boston Garden which will preclude tunnel alternatives to Scheme Z.

10. The City Council demands that the Commonwealth immediately convene the citizens advisory panel on Scheme Z called for by the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, and that no decision on any final EIS/R be made until such a panel has completed its work. The advisory panel must include representatives of Cambridge environmental groups. Further, the Secretary of Environmental Affairs should declare the Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel to be a "major and complicated project" and a citizens advisory committee should be formed.
11. The Cambridge City Council authorizes and requests the City Manager to hire appropriate legal counsel forthwith to present legal alternatives for possible action by the City; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Cambridge City Council opposes the currently designed "Scheme Z"; and

The Cambridge City Council hereby establishes the "Cambridge Central Artery Advisory Committee" comprised of nine members appointed by the City manager by November 26, 1990 with five members residents of East Cambridge, including a representative of the East Cambridge Stabilization Committee, a member representing Cambridge Citizens for Liveable Neighborhoods, a members representing the developer of North Point, a member representing construction unions, and the Director of the Cambridge Conservation Commission; and

The Cambridge City Council urges Governor-Elect Weld to announce his immediate opposition to the currently designed "Scheme Z" and to indicate his intent to work closely with the Cambridge Central Artery Advisory Committee to develop a preferred alternative acceptable to the Commonwealth and the City of Cambridge; and

The Cambridge City Council requests that the City Manager provide adequate staff support through the City Manager's Office and to hire an independent engineering consultant to work with the Cambridge Central Artery Advisory Committee; and

A copy of this resolution be immediately transmitting to Governor-Elect Weld, the Federal Highway Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of Environmental Affairs John DeVillars.

In City Council November 19, 1990.

Adopted as amended by a yea and nay vote:-

Yeas 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

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



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In City Council November 19, 1990.

Adopted as amended by a yea and nay vote:-

Yeas 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

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

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

Roll Call # 1

In City Council NOV. 19 1990

C. Toomey - Motion to Substitute Cal. Item # 11

Re: Scheme 2

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mr. Ed Cyr		✓		
Mr. Francis H. Duehay		✓		
Mr. Jonathan S. Myers		✓		
Mr. Kenneth E. Reeves		✓		
Mrs. Sheila T. Russell	✓			
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan	✓			
Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	✓			
Mr. William H. Walsh	✓			
Mayor Alice K. Wolf		✓		

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5

Failed by Adoption

WHEREAS: On January 3, 1991, William Weld will be inaugurated Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;

WHEREAS Governor-Elect Weld, a resident of Cambridge, committed himself to preserving the environment;

WHEREAS The proposed "Scheme Z" crossing of the Charles River as part of the Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel Project will have a significant impact on East Cambridge;

WHEREAS It will be more beneficial to work constructively the next six weeks with the new administration rather than expend energy fighting the outgoing administration;

RESOLVED The Cambridge City Council opposes the currently designed "Scheme Z"; and

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Councillor Toomey

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council _____ 199

C. Cyr - Amendment to C. Duehay's Cal. D & R # 11

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mr. Ed Cyr	✓			
Mr. Francis H. Duehay	✓			
Mr. Jonathan S. Myers	✓			
Mr. Kenneth E. Reeves	✓			
Mrs. Sheila T. Russell		✓		
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan		✓		
Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	✓			
Mr. William H. Walsh		✓		
Mayor Alice K. Wolf	✓			

6 3

Amendment to # 11.

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council _____ 199

Sullivan

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT	
Mr. Ed Cyr	✓				
Mr. Francis H. Duehay	✓				
Mr. Jonathan S. Myers	✓				
Mr. Kenneth E. Reeves	✓				
Mrs. Sheila T. Russell	✓				
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan		✓			
Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	✓				
Mr. William H. Walsh		✓			
Mayor Alice K. Wolf	✓				

7 2

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council 11/19/90 199

Adopted AS Amended -CAL.#11 Scheme 2

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mr. Ed Cyr	✓			
Mr. Francis H. Duehay	✓			
Mr. Jonathan S. Myers	✓			
Mr. Kenneth E. Reeves	✓			
Mrs. Sheila T. Russell	✓			
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan	✓ ⁽²⁾	X ⁽²⁾		
Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	✓			
Mr. William H. Walsh	✓			
Mayor Alice K. Wolf	✓			

C. G. Jordan

7 *10*

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John De Villars

John Toomey

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TABLED BY COUNCILLOR DUEHAY.



City of Cambridge

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(1) Duchay

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C. Duchay*

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5. The proposed Scheme Z clearly violates Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. There are many prudent and feasible alternatives to Scheme Z. In particular, an all-tunnel crossing of the Charles River is prudent and feasible and must be studied as an alternative. We urge this alternative to be selected as the preferred alternative. The problems with Scheme Z cannot be mitigated without radical change. The proposals to date for mitigation by the Commonwealth do not come close to being an effective plan environmental mitigation.
6. Scheme Z will create a tremendous amount of air and noise pollution in Cambridge, especially in East Cambridge. The Environmental Impact Report for the Central Artery fails to adequately describe such impacts. Plumes of air pollution from the millions of cars utilizing Scheme Z will create a health risk in Cambridge. Scheme Z will tremendously increase the number of vehicle miles traveled in Cambridge. This added air pollution is completely unacceptable.
7. Scheme Z also violates the 97th Article of Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution which prohibits the use of public parklands for an inconsistent purpose without a two-thirds roll call vote of each house of the state legislature. The Cambridge City Council is adamantly opposed to any such inconsistent use and urges all Cambridge state representatives and senators to vote against any authorization for the inconsistent purpose.
8. The City Council finds the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Report ("DSEIS/R") for the Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel project to be completely inadequate. It must be changed to include a full discussion of all reasonable alternatives for the Charles River Crossing, including the all-tunnel alternative.
9. The Cambridge City Council is adamantly opposed to any continuing construction in Charlestown and at the site of the new Boston Garden which will preclude tunnel alternatives to Scheme Z.

10. The City Council demands that the Commonwealth immediately convene the citizens advisory panel on Scheme Z called for by the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, and that no decision on any final EIS/R be made until such a panel has completed its work. The advisory panel must include representatives of Cambridge environmental groups. Further, the Secretary of Environmental Affairs should declare the Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel to be a "major and complicated project" and a citizens advisory committee should be formed.
11. The Cambridge City Council authorizes and directs the City Manager to pursue any and all appropriate legal action against Scheme Z.

TABLED BY COUNCILLOR DUFHAY.

Order # 81

S-1155

Councillor Duehay re: Scheme Z.

In City Council,

November 5, 1990

TABLED BY COUNCILLOR DUEHAY

*11/15/90 Order
Adopted as amended
9-0-0.*