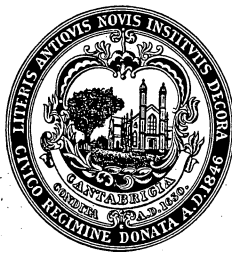


Russell B. Higley  
City Solicitor

Donald A. Drisdell  
Deputy City Solicitor

Nancy E. Glowa  
First Assistant  
City Solicitor



Arthur J. Goldberg  
Supervising Legal Counsel

Legal Counsel  
Birge Albright  
Vali Buland  
Cheryl Anne Watson  
Nancy B. Schlacter  
Christine E. McGinn

## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Office of the City Solicitor  
795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

May 15, 2002

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager  
City Hall  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: ***City Council Order #4, dated 4/22/02  
Cambridge/Somerville boundary line***

Dear Mr. Healy:

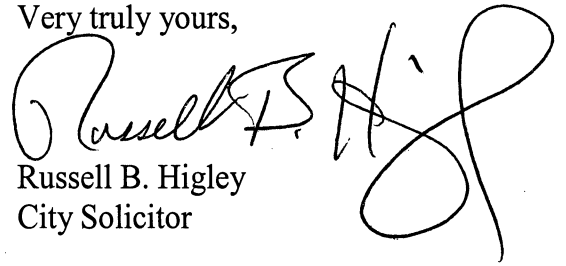
In response to the referenced City Council order, please be advised of the following.

There is no dispute that the official boundary between Somerville and Cambridge in the North Point area is currently legally identified to be the center line of the old channel of the Millers River. As you are well aware, the precise location of the boundary as defined has come into question due to variations on several maps produced by the City of Somerville and by the City of Cambridge. In an effort to resolve the question of the precise location of the boundary, the City Engineer and his staff have met with the City of Somerville Engineering staff to review various issues concerning the boundary location, and most particularly in the North Point area and in the area around the Twin City Plaza. Engineering staff from both Somerville and Cambridge met with Gunther Engineering who have performed exhaustive fieldwork and have conducted multiple surveys over the past twenty years in the area. After reviewing the Gunther boundary line survey the Engineering staff from both Somerville and Cambridge are satisfied that the survey is the most accurate achievable survey of the boundary line as currently defined, i.e., the center of the channel of the old Millers River.

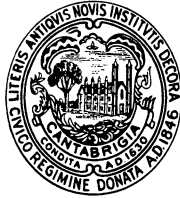
In order to be fully assured that the Gunther survey accurately represents the original boundary line, the City Engineers office is proposing that an independent surveying firm review the Gunther survey and provide to the City an independent assessment of the survey's accuracy.

Upon completion of this peer review, it will be possible to determine whether any further action may be necessary regarding the boundary.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell B. Higley". The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops and a prominent "H".

Russell B. Higley  
City Solicitor



15.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

*Robert W. Healy, City Manager*

*Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager*

May 20, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 02-33, regarding a report on the Cambridge/Somerville boundary line, received from City Solicitor Russell B. Higley.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager

RWH/mec  
Attachment

S 159

**Consent Agenda #15**

**Awaiting Report Item**  
**Number 02-33**, regarding a  
report on the  
Cambridge/Somerville  
boundary line.

**In City Council May 20, 2002**

**PLACED ON FILE.**