



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Robert Healy, City Manager

Date Feb. 16, 1990

From *G. Teso*
George Teso, Traffic Director

Reference

Subject City Council Order #27, 9/20/89 - Re: "Large Trucks Using Our Residential Streets"

In regard to heavy truck traffic using our residential streets, it has been and still is our policy to restrict heavy trucks from using these streets wherever possible and forcing these trucks to utilize our major arteries. The overall picture of trucks entering and leaving Cambridge reveals that we have a high volume of truck traffic that comes from the Mass. Turnpike with destinations in Revere, Everett, Chelsea and East Boston. Another high volume of trucks that comes from Boston and Route 2 is because this is the main east-west route. The third but less higher volume of trucks are from the Brighton Watertown and Waltham area that come through Concord Avenue and Harvard Square.

We have restricted trucks on streets throughout the City that we found were being used as shortcuts and where we could meet the requirements set forth by law. There are other streets in the City that are being studied with a view towards restricting heavy trucks and I will take whatever steps necessary to stop these trucks from using our residential streets. Not only do these trucks shake some of the homes, they also cause extensive damage to our sidewalks due to the narrowness of our streets and the trucks being too large to maneuver through our intersections.

This problem has been with us for a long time and we as a City are doing everything we can to remedy the situation, but this is a regional problem and I have met with state and other city officials asking them to find a route that would bypass Cambridge entirely. They have responded to our state representatives that they are looking into this matter.

In order for me to determine if in fact we did create other problems by restricting trucks on certain streets, I would like to know where the complaints

are coming from so that we can study the problem by classifying the type of trucks and where they are coming from.

I would also be happy to meet with any citizen or groups of citizens on this problem. We also must remember that the truck restrictions as set forth by state law requires that we find a suitable alternate route through our City and that any vehicle doing business on that street or area is exempt from the law.

I have my crews checking all the signing in the City and will be replacing worn out or missing signs. We normally do this in the spring as we do have knockdowns during snow plowing and we replace posts when the ground has thawed out.

I am enclosing a list of the streets that now have truck restrictions for your information. Again, I would like to have a list of streets that complaints are coming from so that I can make a determination of changing patterns.

GT:rd

SCHEDULE 12

SECTION 21.12 HEAVY COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PROHIBITED FROM USING CERTAIN STREETS

When signs are erected giving notice thereof, no person shall operate a heavy commercial vehicle except as provided under Section 17.2, upon any of the following streets or parts of streets:

STREET	FROM	TO	HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE
Bay St.	Kinnaird St.	N. of Green St.	All	4 Dec 82
Beech St.	Mass. Ave.	Somerville Line	All	3 Oct 86
Blanchard Rd.	Concord Ave.	Belmont Line	All	1 Nov 79
Brattle St.	Mason St.	Mt. Auburn St.	All	28Dec 72
Cameron Ave.	Mass. Ave.	Somerville Line	All	3 Oct 86
Chester St.	Mass. Ave.	Somerville Line	All	3 Oct 86
Clarendon Ave.	Mass. Ave.	Somerville Line	All	23Jun 77
Columbia St.	Main St.	Cambridge St.	All	30Jan 87
Columbus Ave.	Mass. Ave.	Kimball St.	All	24Oct 74
Coolidge Ave.	Mt. Auburn St.	Watertown Line	All	4 Aug 66
Coolidge Hill Rd.	Eastern End	Western End	All	4 Aug 66
Day St.	Mass. Ave.	Soemrville Line	All	3 Oct 86
Dover St.	Soemrville Line	Mass. Ave.	All	3 Oct 86
Edmunds St.	Mass. Ave.	Westerly to End	All	10Mar 77
Eighth St.	Spring St.	Cambridge St.	All	19Oct 72
Fifth St.	Cambridge St.	Charles St.	All	19Oct 72
Fifth St.	Cambridge St.	Winter St.	All	5 Apr 84
Franklin St.	Putnam Ave.	Pleasant St.	All	9 Dec 82
Gore St.	Lambert St.	Third St.	All	5 Apr 84
Green St.	Sellers St.	Putnam Ave.	All	9 Dec 82
Harrison Ave.	Columbus Ave.	Whittemore Ave.	All	24Oct 74
Hurley St.	Third St.	Sixth St.	All	9 Dec 82
Irving St.	Scott St.	Kirkland St.	All	4 Aug 66
Kimball St.	Seagrave St.	Whittemore Ave.	All	24Oct 84
Madison St.	Columbus St.	Whittemore Ave.	All	24Oct 74
Magoun St.	Mass. Ave.	Whittemore Ave.	All	24Oct 74
Mason St.	Garden St.	Brattle St.	All	28Dec 72
Otis St.	Third St.	Fulkerson St.	All	19Oct 72

STREET	FROM	TO	HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE
Prospect St.	Mass. Ave.	Somerville Line	All	30Jan87
Rindge Ave.	Mass. Ave.	Alewife Brook Pkwy.	All	4Aug 66
River St.	Memorial Dr.	Western Ave.	7P-7A Mon-Fri All Sat.&Sun.	18Jul 74

Except trucks carrying dangerous articles which cannot go under the Prudential Center, the South Station Tunnel or use MDC roads.

Russell St.	Mass. Ave.	Somerville Line	All	3 Oct 86
Sciarappa St.	Cambridge St.	Msgr. O'Brien Hwy	All	5 Apr 84
Sciarappa St.	Cambridge St.	Charles St.	All	19Oct 72
Scott St.	Irving St.	Soemrville Line	All	4 Aug 66
Seagrove St.	Kimball St.	Whittemore Ave.	All	24Oct 74
Seventh St.	Cambridge St.	Spring St.	All	19Oct 72
Seventh St.	Cambridge St.	Gore St.	All	5 Apr 84
Spring St.	Third St.	Fulkerson St.	All	19Oct 72
Sixth St.	Cambridge St.	Gore St.	All	5 Apr 84
Sixth St.	Cambridge St.	Fulkerson St.	All	4 Aug 66
Third St.	Binney St.	Msgr O'Brien Hwy	All	30Jan 87
Thorndike St.	Third St.	Fulkerson St.	All	19Oct 72
Walden St.	Concord Ave.	Mass. Ave.	All	20Oct 87
Washburn Ave.	Mass. Ave.	Somerville Line	All	23Jun 87
Western Ave.	Mass. Ave.	Memorial Dr.	7P-7A Mon-Fri All Sat.&Sun.	13Jul 74
Windsor St.	Main St.	Cambridge St.	All	20Jan 87
Winter St.	Fifth St.	Msgr. O'Brien Hwy	All	5 Apr 84



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

March 12, 1990

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 16, dated 9/18/89, relative to large trucks using our residential streets, attached please find a report from George Teso, Director of Traffic & Parking, regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev
enclosure

Agenda # 1

S- 256

Awaiting Report Item Number 16 regarding
large trucks using our residential streets.

In City Council,

March 12, 1990

Placed on file