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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

February 11, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 01-253, regarding a report on traffic safety for younger children on Broadway at CRLS, Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger reports the following:

Over the past two years The Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department has implemented many major pedestrian improvements on Broadway between Ellery Street and Quincy Street. These improvements were initiated by previous city council orders due to the concerns of pedestrian safety for children, teenagers, and adults. These improvements are listed below.

1. "Yield to Pedestrian" warning barrel was installed at the mid-block crosswalk between CRLS main campus entrance and the entrance to the trade building. The CRLS staff has taken responsibility for making sure the barrel is repositioned as needed. This barrel was installed during the spring of 2000. In the fall of 2001, day-glow yellow-green "school crossing" warning signs were installed at this crosswalk and in advance to the crosswalk.
2. During the fall of 2000, 20 M.P.H. school zone signal flashers were installed. These signals flash during the heavy pedestrian volumes in the morning and afternoon.
3. All crosswalks in the surrounding area of the high school are inspected yearly. Any crosswalks that are faded are placed on the pavement marking routine maintenance list for that summer. These crosswalks are first priority; as a result, they are replaced during the first few weeks of the pavement-marking season, well before the opening of school in September.
4. There is a traffic signal with a pedestrian phase at Trowbridge Street. This intersection offers a controlled crossing to and from the high school. The pedestrian signal timing was inspected on February 6, 2002, and this signal timing was determined to be adequate for adults, elderly and children to cross safely.

The above pedestrian improvements implemented over the past few years, have increased the awareness to drivers, that they are approaching an area where heavy volumes of pedestrians (including children and teenagers) are present. The Department has heard positive comments from school staff, school committee members, and residents stating that the improvements implemented by The Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department have increase safety.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

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Consent Agenda #16

Awaiting Report Item
Number 01-253, regarding a
report on traffic safety for
younger children on
Broadway at CRLS.

In City Council February 11, 2002

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