



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 26, 1976

Secretary Frederick P. Salvucci
Executive Office of Transportation and Construction
1 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Secretary Salvucci:

The Cambridge Conservation Commission supports your decision to proceed with the "minimum build" roadway alternative for the Alewife Brook area. However, this alternative is essentially a concept, which leaves wide latitude for interpretation. The next step of designing the details of this alternative is a critical one and deserves maximum public participation.

The Alewife Task Force has been very successful to date in providing a forum for such participation. Therefore, we strongly endorse the resolution accepted by the Alewife Task Force on July 21, 1976, which reads:

Resolved:

We acknowledge that the Secretary has made a decision between the two alternatives, that in his decision he has responded to the Task Force, and that he has said that the Task Force will be involved in the up-coming design process; we urge that the designs be reviewed with the Task Force before various decision points in the design process, that these reviews be meaningful, and that responses be given to the Task Force regarding its suggestions.

In addition, the specific design, location, and manner of construction of the roadway improvements will determine the impact on the wetlands in the area. As you know, The Wetlands Protection Act, G.L. Chapter 131, sec. 40, requires a conservation commission Order of Conditions prior to any wetland alteration. We believe that both the Red Line extension and roadway improvements at Alewife are actions that come within the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission. We expect a Notice of Intent to be filed with us when the final designs are prepared.

We will continue our participation on the Alewife Task Force in order to keep informed on the progress of these projects.

Very truly yours,

Stuart Lesser
Stuart Lesser

Chairman, Cambridge Conservation Commission

75-5373

Comm. from the Chairman of the Conservation
Commission supporting the decision of the
State Transportation Secretary re: to the
"minimum build" roadway alternative for
Alewife Brook.

In City Council,

Sept. 13, 1976

Placed on File -