



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Traffic, Parking and Transportation
57 Inman Street,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

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98 MAY 29 AM 9:53
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Susan E. Clippinger
Director

Administration 349-4700
Parking Violations 349-4705
Resident Parking 349-4701

May 26, 1998

TO: Robert Healy, City Manager

FROM: Susan E. Clippinger, Director *SC*

SUBJECT: Council Order 042 dated 5/18/98

RE: Report on traffic improvement measures for the intersection of Cedar and Harvey Streets during the North Mass. Avenue improvements.

At the first public meeting for the North Mass. Ave. project, in April, 1997, a petition was presented to the City from the residents of Gold Star Road and Seven Pines Ave. requesting that Harvey Street between Cedar Street and Mass. Ave. be made two-way to reduce cut-through traffic on their streets. This change was made in the plans and presented at several subsequent meetings. Changing that block of Harvey to two way raised concerns among residents about safety at Cedar and Harvey. It also generated a new petition, in January, 1998, in opposition to the change because it eliminated the parking on both sides of Harvey in the block being changed. The City modified the plan to show no change to Harvey. Since the project does not make any changes to Harvey Street, the designs have not shown any changes to the intersection of Harvey and Cedar.

Speeding on Cedar Street is a problem which the City is addressing. The raised intersection at Cedar and Dudley that was implemented last summer is the first step in addressing this problem. The North Mass. Ave. project will change the intersection of Cedar and Mass. to slow cars at that location. It will be most effective in slowing the right turn from Mass. Ave. to Cedar Street southbound. Further changes along Cedar Street will also need to be considered to keep the cars slowed. Curb extensions at Harvey and Cedar would help keep cars slowed and improve safety at that intersection. These additional changes will be scheduled as part of our ongoing traffic calming projects, including changes to Sheridan Square to improve safety, slow cars and make it more pedestrian friendly.

The City will not be trying to divert cars off Cedar Street as there are no better alternative routes. Alternates to Cedar Street, such as Rindge, Walden and Upland, are also residential streets that carry higher volumes during rush hour. Rather than diverting traffic, our goal is to slow it to a speed comparable with the neighborhood through which it passes.

cc: B. Rubenstein
S. White



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

June 1, 1998

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 29, regarding a report on traffic improvement measures for the intersection of Cedar and Harvey Streets during the No. Massachusetts Avenue construction, received from Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #9

3875

A report on traffic improvement
measures for the intersection of
Cedar and Harvey Streets during the
North Mass. Ave. construction..

In City Council June 1, 1998

PLACED ON FILE