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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item Number, 07-30, regarding a report on determining if the bicycle accident in Porter Square was caused in any way by the Porter Square redesign. Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger reports the following:

A bicycle/vehicle accident occurred on February 22, 2007 at 1924 Massachusetts Avenue, which is on the southbound side. The bicycle was traveling southbound and a northbound car turning left into the driveway at 1924 Massachusetts Avenue struck the rear wheel of the bicycle and the bicyclist was knocked down. The driver was cited for failure to use care when turning.

The redesign of Massachusetts Avenue in the Porter Square area had no impact on this accident. Access to the driveway was available for left turning northbound vehicles before the current changes were implemented. The project has actually provided safety improvements at this location. The new marked bicycle lanes increase information to drivers to beware that bicycles are likely to be using the street. The new marked crosswalk and the advance yield markings further encourage drivers to use caution.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec