



City of Cambridge

O-13
IN CITY COUNCIL
April 5, 2010

COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG
VICE MAYOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SEIDEL
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

- WHEREAS: Large scale construction projects bring numerous workers into Cambridge; and
- WHEREAS: Many of these workers park at metered spaces all day long, often not feeding the meter and, to some extent, defeating the purpose of 'turnover' in public parking spots that meters attempt to create; and
- WHEREAS: Parking mitigation plans or fees can be part of a construction permit process but will only work if properly enforced; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the City's policy towards on-street public spaces being used by workers and what impact the workers "feeding" relevant meters has on the City's ticketing efforts.

In City Council April 5, 2010
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager *Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager*

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April 12, 2010

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item Number 10-52, regarding a report on the possibility of structuring the parking ticket system in a way that would increase parking tickets as people stay longer at expired meters or general no-parking spots, Traffic, Parking & Transportation Director Susan Clippinger reports the following:

Parking violations and the associated fines for the City of Cambridge are set by the Traffic Director in accordance with Chapter 455 of the Acts of 1961 which created the Department and as further regulated by MGL Chapter 90 Section 20A1/2.

Chapter 90, Section 20 A1/2 says in part:

The ...traffic director of any ... city ... having such a ... director with authority to promulgate traffic rules, ..., shall, from time to time, establish by rule or regulation a schedule of fines for violations subject to this section committed within such city ...; provided, however, that all such fines shall be uniform for the same offense committed in the same zone or district, if any; ...

We cannot create a fine that increases with time for two reasons. First, it is not allowed in Chapter 90. Second, there is no way of knowing when a vehicle first becomes illegally parked unless the PCO is standing beside the vehicle at the time.

If there are specific areas where illegally parked and ticketed vehicles are preventing others from accessing those spaces, please let us know. We can then focus enforcement on those particular areas to resolve the problem.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy".

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec