Traffic on Oxford Street

At the February Agassiz Neighborhood Council Meeting traffic problems on Oxford Street were discussed.

Alice Wolf, City Councillor, was in attendance, and she explained that in September the city council had requested that long streets such as Oxford be assessed for speed and safety by the police and traffic departments. In late January she requested that Oxford Street specifically be looked into for speed and safety.

The Neighborhood Council's task that night was to discuss and arrive at some solutions that could be presented to the traffic department. These solutions would later be introduced at a meeting with the traffic department to discuss their feasibility.

Historically residents have been unable to agree on solutions, and this meeting was no exception. Many solutions were suggested, none met with complete approval. Listed below are most of the ideas from the council meeting. (Please remember when reading them that in order to slow down traffic on Oxford Street, residents may have to accept some inconvenience!)

next council meeting...

March 12 Wednesday
7:30 Agassiz Community Center
20 Sacramento Street

Traffic Issues
* Mark Hinderlie, Department of Human Services, City of Cambridge, to talk about the 1986-87 budget

* Better signage to show a school zone at the Sacramento St. corner. This could include a flashing yellow speed limit sign. Also better painted crosswalks.

* Have the Sacramento Street traffic light placed on a cycle. Now Oxford Street only gets a red signal when traffic trips the light coming down Sacramento.

* Removal of large trucks from Oxford St.

* Change the Harvard Shuttle Stop from just beyond the bend which connects Kirkland and Oxford Streets.

* Change the parking in front of the Oxford Spa to a loading zone.

* Installation of a traffic light at the corner of Forest and Oxford Streets.

* Oxford Street one way northbound from Forest St. to Beacon Street.

* Oxford Street one way northbound between Sacramento and Beacon, one way southbound between Sacramento and Kirkland.

* Closing off Kirkland Street between Oxford Street and the Busch Reisinger Museum

* Better enforcement of No Parking at corners. Better enforcement of speed limits.

* Dead end Oxford Street at Beacon Street.

Traffic on Oxford Street cont. page 3

This edition of the "Whistler" compliments of the

Oxford Spa

7 AM - 9 PM
Open 7 days a week
102 Oxford St 547-5440
Sewer Engineering Study in the Works

For those residents who have been plagued by flooding, we have some forward motion!

The engineering study for phase VI of the sewer reconstruction project has been pushed ahead, and instead of waiting until money would be allocated in July, the city has approved money for the study to begin immediately.

We have received a copy of a letter dated 2/10/86 from Robert Healy to the city council which states that $750,000 has been transferred "to fund the design of phase VI & VII of the City's Sanitary Sewerage and Storm Drainage Program".

More from that letter states:
Phase VI construction will cover the Agassiz Area which includes Oxford/Kirkland/Plympton St. The proposed construction will provide for the following major benefits:
- Considerable reductions in the frequency of combined sewer overflows to the Charles River Basin via the Plympton St. overflow
- Reduction of infiltration and combined flows to MDC sewer systems and ultimately to the Deer Island Treatment Facility
- Elimination of sewage backups in the project area

Healy later states in the letter that the study should take about one year. At that point he will recommend funding which he expects will be by bonding. Alice Wolf stressed the need for a good financial plan, so the council will be sure to take heed.

The neighborhood council will be following all developments, and they will be reported to you in the "Whistler".

Neighborhood Council Annual Meeting

April is the month for the annual meeting of the Agassiz Neighborhood Council. We will have an entertaining meeting (details in the April "Whistler"). We will also have our election of officers at that meeting. If you are interested in holding office or have a good suggestion for a nominee, please be in touch with the Agassiz Neighborhood Council in writing. We will pass your name on to the nominating committee.

Anyone who has attended one meeting of the neighborhood council in the past year may vote in the election.

Mass. Ave. Zoning Update

There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 13 at the Masonic Temple, 1950 Mass. Ave. (Porter Square) which will be the second public meeting on the Mass. Ave. Zoning Study. It will be held at 7:30.

This meeting will be to update the public on the preliminary findings, to answer questions the public may have, and to gather input from residents and business people along Mass. Ave. from the Cambridge Commons to the Arlington line.

All interested people are encouraged to attend. For further information you can contact Betty Desrosiers, City of Cambridge, Community Development Office, 498-9034.

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council keeps a zoning mailing list to inform interested people of special meetings or events. Please call 498-9056 if you wish to be on the mailing list.

As the "Whistler" went to print, the Board of Zoning Appeals had not met to determine the status of the Georgie's site, but you will be updated next month.

Cambridge-Soviet Sister City Project

Through the Peace Commission, the City of Cambridge is forming an alliance with a Soviet City.

There will be a program entitled "Spreading Goodwill and Human Understanding" on March 19 at 7:30 in the Media Cafeteria at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School with 5 panelists, cost $3.

The sister city project has a variety of other programs available for your organization including videos, slideshows, children's posters, and a newsletter.

If you are interested in this project and would like more information, call 498-9000 x9533 or 547-1944.
May Day Celebration

WAKE UP THE EARTH at the 3rd Agassiz Community May Day Celebration. Traditional May Day songs and dances will be taught Sunday evenings beginning March 9 in the Agassiz School Gym.

1. Pole Dancers, 5:50-6:30 boys and girls ages 7 and older
2. Morris Dancers, 6:30-7:30 boys and girls ages 9 and older
   These dances will be taught by members of the Pinewood Morris Dance Team.

For more information call Ada Snider at 661-2961 or Jill Gleim at 876-1194.

Traffic on Oxford Street (Cont. [1])

Did you hate any of those ideas? Did you like any of them? Do you have any better ideas yourself? A committee will be meeting to sort out all the ideas, and your input can help. Just tear out the attached coupon, and let us know your ideas which will be discussed at the March council meeting.

Gallery to Host White Fat Man Show

Scott Bruce will be taking over the Sacramento Street Gallery at 20 Sacramento St. with a series of 4 shows under the name of "White Fat Man" which Scott calls "a feed in 4 courses" now through May 10.

The first show is an Audio Installation, Kevin Concannon, curator, February 26-March 18. "Sound and Vision" by Kevin Concannon and "Pleasure in the Moment" by Harry Bartlett. February 27, 28; 5-10 P.M. March 1; 12-6 P.M.


The third show is a Glass Installation, Tom O'Connell, Artist, March 31-April 20, "Bathroom" installation in glass, soap, colored water, painted plastic curtains. April 11 6-10 P.M. Reception, April 12 11 A.M. - 5 P.M., April 18 5-10 P.M. Reception, April 19 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

The last show is Painting, Steve Mitchell, Artist, April 21-May 10, "Dressing Fat Man", April 25 6-11 P.M. Reception, April 26 11 A.M. - 5 P.M., May 3 11 A.M. - 5 P.M., May 9 6-11 P.M. (Final Reception), May 10 12-5 P.M.

Scott ran the Basement Gallery in Boston several years ago. This series of shows promises to be interesting, provocative and unusual. And they will be held in your own community center. Come and enjoy them!!!
March 1, 2  Articulture Youth Players presents  "Puppet Logic"; March 1 at 8pm, March 2 at 3pm  Cambridge MultiCultural Art Center, 41 Second St.

March 3  Agassiz Reading Series, Diane Korzenik, 7:30  (See schedule for details)

March 5  Joint Parent Steering Committee, 6-7 pm  Agassiz Community Center, childcare and snacks

March 5  Images of Women "Passage to Kenya" 7pm Welch Auditorium, Lesley College, details call 868-9600 x309

March 11  Released day, Agassiz school closes, afterschool opens 12:45

March 12  Agassiz Neighborhood Council Meeting, 7:30  Agassiz Community Center, see front for agenda

March 17  Agassiz Reading Series, Paul Quain and Judy Yorkers, 7:30 (See schedule for details)

March 17  St Patrick's Day—No school or afterschool

March 19  Cambridge Soviet Sister City Project Panel  7:30, CRIS, $3. (See article for details)

March 28  Good Friday—No School or afterschool

SEE ARTICLE ON GALLERY FOR SHOW DATES AND EVENTS !!!!