



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JOHN H. CORCORAN
City Manager
JAMES L. FARRELL
Assistant City Manager

December 17, 1973

To the Honorable, the City Council,

With reference to City Council orders of December 10, 1973 relative to John Nikolaou, the petitioner for a license to operate an Auto Body Repair Shop on Regent Street, I have met with Mr. Nikolaou at his place of business on 34 Regent Street and report the following:

1. That the accumulation of refuse cited in the Council orders as constituting threats to health and safety actually preceded occupancy of the petitioner by a period of at least one year, and that during the short period of the petitioner's occupancy such accumulations have been collected into one single pile to be removed momentarily (as weather permits). And further, that other cited risks of conflagration and threats to the safety of children have substantially abated due to both voluntary and prescribed improvements made by the petitioner.
2. That the petitioner (at great personal sacrifice in terms of time lost to make, in good faith, all City-ordered improvements to building and site, and in terms of lost income occasioned by City delays in the issuance of a license for operation) has complied in every respect with the letter of the law.
3. That the petitioner is disinclined to perpetuate the original onerous delay by an additional City delay in finding "an alternative location within the City of Cambridge". And that further, attorneys for the petitioner intend to seek a Writ of Mandamus, ordering the City to proceed with issuance of a license to operate. And that such a Writ could quite conceivably result in an award of damages to the petitioner, especially since the City is in a legally indefensible position.

In conclusion, I would like to advise you that the License Commission will hold a hearing on January 8, 1973 on this particular case and all parties will be appropriately informed.

Very truly yours,

John H. Corcoran
City Manager

JHC/mg

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Re: to the operation of an auto body shop
on Regent St.

12/17/73

L. Darby -

Placed on File

Report.