

THE REV. JAMES L. LOWERY, JR.
984 MEMORIAL DRIVE, #304
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

April 20, 1979

The City Council
Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge MA 02139

Ladies and Gentlemen:

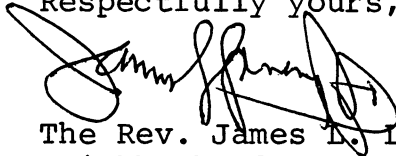
Due to absence from the city on conflicting business, I cannot physically be present at the City Council meeting of April 23, and so beg your indulgence to let me testify by letter, as President of the Neighborhood Ten Association, whose area includes the land in point, to urge most strongly the changed zoning presented by Councillor Duehay, of the property between Gerry Street and Ash Street, and between Mount Auburn Street and the Memorial Drive apartments. I believe this reduced turf represents an acceptable accommodation between Mr. DiGiovanni and Mr. Duehay which is acceptable to us.

We urge the change in zoning because of a long history in this area, as we see it, of encroachment in residential districts by business and development interests, to the detriment of low rise residential living.

We see the Harvard Square area as representing a precious balance of business, institutional, and residential uses, resulting in a lively variety which is good. But we also see the history of recent years as being a time when the other usages bode fair to overwhelm the residential. First it was the battle of Story Street. Then it was the battle of Hilliard Street. Now it is Gerry Street, where the border between developer and resident must stand. And we want the edge of so-called development to go no further. The change in zoning requested in the petition of Councillor Duehay will allow a definite border of low-rise residential use to stand in one small portion of the southwest sector of the Harvard Square area.

Think of our embattled, beleaguered residents, and think of the importance of neighborhood life in this city, and then vote for Councillor Duehay's zoning change.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James L. Lowery, Jr.", written over the typed name.

The Rev. James L. Lowery, Jr., President
Neighborhood Ten Association
Office: 742-1460
Home: 492-1275

cc:
City Clerk
All Councillors

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