

MID-CAMBRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

1 Corliss Place, Cambridge 02139, 864-9596

By a unanimous vote of the members at the Sept. 5, 1974 meeting, the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association has taken the position:

We, members of the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association, are concerned about the request by Arthur DeMeo of the 1400 Investment Realty Trust for curb cuts for the triangular lot in Inman Square which includes 1407-1413 Cambridge Street. If curb cuts are granted, many kinds of development, many of which could be harmful to Inman Square, might be possible. Permission for curb cuts made possible the construction of the Kentucky Fried Chicken at the corner of Hampshire and Prospect Streets although residents of the area who felt the establishment would damage their neighborhood opposed the construction as soon as they realized what the curb cuts implied. Although this would not be possible in Inman Square because of the passage of an amendment to the zoning ordinance requires a special permit for Kentucky Fried Chicken - style establishments, other uses that might be objectionable to the neighborhood and to other businesses in Inman Square would be possible.

In addition to opening the way for unpleasant land uses, permission for curb cuts may make some other desirable uses less possible. Several residents of the neighborhood have suggested, for instance, that the triangular lot in Inman Square could be used for open space. It seems important that before new development takes place on a lot that is so significant in the character of future development in Inman Square, the range of alternative uses should be explored much more fully than they have been so far.

As a result of these considerations, we, the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Assn. urge the City Council not to grant permission for curb cuts to Arthur DeMeo or any other owner or future owners until he has presented a detailed plan for his proposed use of the site which the community supports.

copies: City Council

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By a two-thirds vote at the meetings of August 15, 1974 and September 5, 1974 meetings, the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association appointed a "City Council Liaison Committee" with membership of Robert LaTremouille, Chairman, Mary Bradford, John Sousa, and others to be named in the future.

The purpose of this committee shall be to attend meetings of the City Council and its committees for the purpose of informing the Association of matters discussed and actions taken which concern the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood.

Members of the committee are hereby authorized, individually, to ask the council, its members, its staff, or persons appearing before it such questions as the committee's members considers necessary to fully comprehend pending matters of relevance to the neighborhood.

The council is hereby requested to provide our liaison committee, at our expense, copies of supporting material included in each councillor's meeting packet which explain matters of peculiar interest to our neighborhood. This should include but not be restricted to supporting documents for such matters as curb cuts or signs requested in our neighborhood.

Members of the committee present are authorized to request delay in any council action on matters which concern the neighborhood. This delay shall be for the purpose of allowing reasonable time for consideration of the matter by the Association.

Please note that the by-laws presently in effect for our Association include the following: "No official statement representing the position of the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association shall be made without the approval of at least two-thirds of the members at a meeting." This letter has been so approved and the authority of the committee is, of necessity, so restricted with regard to any statements not herein authorized.

copies: City Council

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By a two-thirds majority vote of the members at the September 5, 1974 meeting, the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association has taken the position:

The Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association endorses the plans proposed by the Inman Square Beautification Committee for alterations to Inman Square with the understanding that the changes in the square will not be detrimental to traffic flow.

copies: City Manager Sullivan
City Council
Traffic and Parking Dept
Planning Department
Inman Square Businessman's Association
Inman Square Fire House

Comm. from the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood
Association relative to the parking in the
Inman Square area.

In City Council,

Sept. 30, 1974

*Refer to Hearing-
File with Petition
AND OTHER PAPERS
REGARDING THIS
MATTER.*