

NORTH CAMBRIDGE STABILIZATION COMMITTEE

June 18, 1992

Cambridge City Council
c/o City Clerk's Office
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
1992 JUN 18 PM 4:21

CAMBRIDGE MA.

RE: Midas Muffler
2501 Mass. Ave./10 Clarendon Ave.

Dear Councilors:

By unanimous vote the North Cambridge Stabilization Committee respectfully urges the City Council to take immediate action to halt the dangerous and illegal expansion of the Midas Muffler facility at the corner of Clarendon and Mass. Ave.--just feet away from private homes, a neighborhood park, playground, and tot lot about to be extensively renovated with public funds, and the Burns Apartments, a 199-unit city-run housing complex for elderly and disabled Cambridge residents.

We would like permission to address you on this pressing matter at the June 22 City Council meeting, at which time we expect to present you with a citizens' petition seeking your formal intervention; a summary of past events and an update on current ones; and a list of possible actions the Council could take to remedy this intolerable situation.

In exasperation and desperation we are appealing to you--the elected representatives of the people of Cambridge and our delegated policymakers--and asking that you put the city back on the course of respecting and upholding the rule of law. We are tired of city officials who subvert due process and circumvent the Council's stringent land-use regulations in apparent collusion with private interests who show slim regard for the public's welfare, cynical contempt for your authority to establish zoning policy on behalf of the electorate, and open disdain for the role of the Planning Board, the agency you have designated to monitor development and oversee city-approved urban design guidelines and growth plans.

Blind to the sleazy tactics that have been used by Midas--and deaf to the repeated objections of neighbors, the Stabilization Committee, the Planning Board, and individual city councilors--executives at the top levels of the current city administration, including the City Manager, the Community Development Director, the Building Commissioner, and the City Solicitor and his deputy, are compounding the outrageous actions of a renegade Board of Zoning Appeal by allowing this project to proceed not only without proper zoning waivers, required permits, and adequate public input, but in probable violation of more than a dozen sections of various city ordinances and state statutes.

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We hope that the Council will give this deplorable state of affairs the close attention it demands, and we look forward to appearing before you on Monday evening.

Yours truly,

Don McMath (by mg)

Don McMath, Chairman
North Cambridge Stabilization Committee
97 Pemberton Street
Cambridge, MA 02140

*Referred to the City Mgr
for a report & pictures
on 9-14-92*

*V/V
9*

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Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Don McMath (by mg)".

Don McMath, Chairman
North Cambridge Stabilization Committee
97 Pemberton Street
Cambridge, MA 02140

Consent Comm. # 18

Cr.
F-297

Comm. from Don McMath, Chairman, North
Cambridge Stabilization Committee, re-
questing the City Council to halt the
expansion of the Midas Muffler facility
on the corner of Clarendon and Mass. Ave.

8/7/92 - Copy sent to City
mgr (cc).

8/3/92 Referred to the
City Manager for a
report with pictures
by 7/14/92 on motion of
Councillor Wolf.
In City Council,

June 22, 1992

Charter Right
exercised by Councillor
Sullivan