

67 Highland Avenue, Apartment 2
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Telephone 491-7181
November 13, 1977

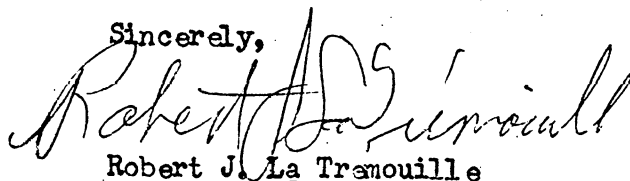
City Manager
City of Cambridge

It is a shock to look at your Hospital Parking construction on Line Street. You have wasted yet another street tree. A year ago you turned the two lots at the corner of Cambridge and Line into an asphalt wasteland, wiping out all three abutting street trees in an apparent attempt to maximize parking. Now you have destroyed one of the five you left next to the original hospital lot. I complained to the council a year ago. You promised to replace the three trees you should never have destroyed in the first place. Your community development director promised you would put screening required by city zoning for parking lots. A few weeks ago I forcefully reminded the council that a year had passed, and that the wasteland was still a wasteland. A week or so after that you started work which looked like it was going to fulfill the promises. Now you appear to be returning to normal.

The most favorable explanation I can see is that you intend to replace yet another mature tree with a sapling. You claim there is no harm in replacing healthy mature trees with trees which won't mature for another thirty or forty years. Your policy is to count only trees which you have planted. You don't count whether those saplings are replacing trees which should never have been destroyed in the first place.

This scorched earth policy of development has been repudiated by the voters. The massive rejection of incumbent councillors after three straight tax reductions can only be a condemnation of your development policies. Three councillors who rubber stamped your brutal destruction of Library Park won't return next year. It is about time you considered the effect of your projects before the neighborhood victims learn that it is "too late". Do the job right in the first place. Responsible development is not a favor. It is your duty, just as it is the duty of private developers in the city. Pious words are meaningless if they are proven false by brutal actions. Repair of needless damage costs twice as much as careful, responsible, planning in the first place.

Sincerely,



Robert J. La Tremouille

cc: City Council
Press

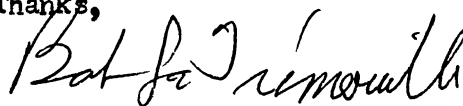
67 Highland Avenue, Apartment 2
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
November 10, 1977

City Clerk
City of Cambridge

Dear Paul,

Enclosed, for communication to the City Council, are ten copies of a letter to the City Manager concerning the City Hospital parking lot. Please keep one copy for file, list it on communications, and send a copy to each councillor.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bob La Tremouille".

Robert J. La Tremouille

Comm. from Robert J. La Tremouille re:
Hospital Parking construction on Line St.

In City Council,
Nov. 21, 1977

11/21/77

- Placed on File -

Copy to City Manager

Copy sent 11-25-77