

January 25, 1973

Dear Council Members:

I have been a resident of a Cambridgeport apartment for more than three years. I own a car which is not registered to my Cambridgeport address. Due to the passage of the recent parking ordinance I find the once public streets in my neighborhood barred to me for the purpose of parking my car. I am aware of ~~some~~ other people who are in a similar predicament.

Not only is it now an inconvenience to have to park several blocks from where one lives, but it is conceivably dangerous as well. Walking several blocks at night from one's car to one's apartment cannot help but increase the likelihood of street crimes. The ordinance works an unnecessary hardship on ~~vguests~~ of all the people in the area for they cannot park their cars on the nearby streets. The whole situation is made more annoying as the restricted streets, at least in this particular area, are nearly empty now of parked cars during the day and only about half full at night. To make matters even more unfair, those who do have resident stickers are allowed to park on the very few neighborhood streets which still have unrestricted parking--thus taking up the only parking spaces available to those without stickers.

The fact that the restricted streets in this particular area are so nearly empty of parked cars indicates that the ordinance is unnecessarily narrow and exclusive. Whatever the rationale for the ordinance--whether it is to discourage students and workers who live elsewhere from filling the streets of Cambridgeport during the day; whether it to control the number of parked vehicles of Cambridgeport residents who have many cars per dwelling unit (most probably students); etc.--there appears to be no justification for discriminating against an entire group of residents on the basis of vehicle registration. If this madness must go on, why not allot, say, one permit for each dwelling unit regardless of vehicle registration?

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Kaufman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Kaufman" clearly legible.

Richard J. Kaufman
465 Putnam Avenue
Cambridge

#6.

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Comm. from Richard J. Kaufman relative
to his Neighborhood Parking System.

In City Council

February 5, 1973

2/5/1973

Placed on File -