

Barbara Aldman
U. N. A.

864-0314

11/4/86 Will apply to B2A
for variance, if granted
this office will re-activate
pat. dion DEC



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK

May 12, 1986

Dear Neighborhood Representative:

Please be advised that this office is in receipt of a petition from _____
The Cambridge Visiting Nurses Association
_____ requesting a driveway at the premises numbered
35 Bigelow Street
_____.

The City Council has directed that all driveway petitions be submitted to the appropriate Neighborhood Associations where said curb cut would be made for their approval, prior to action by the City Council. Please indicate by return mail your approval or disapproval of said petition within ten days from the receipt of this letter. I have enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope to facilitate your reply.

Your kind cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated by the members of the City Council.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph E. Connarton

Joseph E. Connarton
Acting City Clerk.

Name of Neighborhood Association: MID-CAMBRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN.

I hereby _____ approve _____ disapprove said driveway petition.

Comments: PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER.

29 May 1986

Office of the City Clerk
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Attn: Joseph E. Connarton, Acting City Clerk

RE: Curb Cut Request at 35 Bigelow Street, Cambridge

Dear Sir:

As a resident of Bigelow Street and member of the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association, I have been asked to collect comments from residents in the area of the referenced property regarding the proposed curb cut in response to your request dated May 12, 1986.

I first spoke with the Director of the Visiting Nurses Association to determine the location of the proposed curb cut. The owners would like to widen the existing curb cut for their property to make maneuvering easier around a large tree and have also petitioned for an additional curb cut on the northern edge of their property to allow for parking on the north side of the property on what is now a grass yard with trees.

The attached notification was distributed to all abutters on Bigelow and Harvard Streets. Four responses were received and are given below. All respondents stated that, although a non-conforming use, the Visiting Nurses Association was a considerate neighbor. However, all felt that the Association should not be located in a residential neighborhood and that the City Council should allow no action which would encourage the Association to remain at this location. Further, all stated that the site should revert to a housing use.

The specific comments are as follows:

Ellen Brockton
33 Bigelow Street

Ms. Brockton would like to be apprised of future plans

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Curb Cut - 35 Bigelow Street

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of the Association regarding expansion on the site and how this related to the curb cut. Although she generally had no objection to the curb cut on the northern edge of the property, Ms. Brockton objects to the loss of the green space which will result from parking being created on that side of the property. There is also a large tree on that side of the property which she felt must be protected. With respect to the widening of the existing curb cut, Ms. Brockton also wanted to ensure the preservation of the existing tree at this location.

Ed Jacobson
40 Bigelow Street

Mr. Jacobson is opposed to any action which would increase the presence of the Association at this site and feels that an additional curb cut would make the Association more permanent at this location. He feels strongly that the site should revert to a housing use.

Doug Clott
44 Bigelow Street

Mr. Clott estimated that the Association members hold approximately 15-20 parking permits in addition to a substantial number of visitor permits and generates a great deal of traffic in this residential neighborhood. An additional curb cut would only result in more traffic. A paved parking lot on the northern side of the site would replace a green space and would endanger a large tree which is located there. The new curb cut would be located very close to an existing one for the adjacent building on the corner of Harvard Street. Mr. Clott felt that the present curb cut is adequate to service the existing driveway.

At present, cars from the Association block the sidewalk and pull up on the curb creating inconvenience for pedestrians. Additionally,

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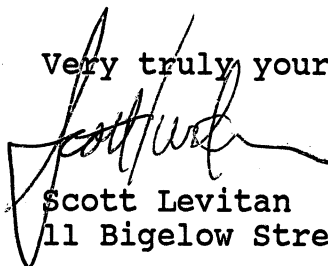
given that the hours of operation extend to 9pm, the commercial traffic is generated for an large portion of the day.

David McDuff
46 Bigelow Street

Mr. McDuff does not object to the widening of the existing curb cut as long as the existing tree is protected. He does object to the additional curb cut in that it increases the permanent nature of the present use of the property and represents "creeping expansion" of this non-residential use.

I hope that these comments will help the City Council in acting on this petition. The members of the Mid-Cambridge Association and neighbors appreciate the opportunity to comment on this request.

Very truly yours,



Scott Levitan
11 Bigelow Street, Cambridge

cc: John Pitkin, Chairman, Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood
Assn.
Ellen Brockton
Ed Jacobson
Doug Clott
David McDuff

22 May 1986

TO: Bigelow Street Neighbors

FROM: Scott & Jodi Levitan
11 Bigelow Street

RE: Curb cut at ³⁵/~~39~~ Bigelow Street

The Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association has been asked by the Cambridge City Council to elicit comments on the application by the Visiting Nurses Association at 39 Bigelow Street for an additional curb cut onto Bigelow Street.

We have met with the Director of the Association who reviewed the proposal with us. The new curb cut will be located at the northern edge of the property nearest Harvard Street to provide access to that side of their property. Additionally, they would like to widen the existing curb cut because the large tree on the southern edge of the property is obstructing passage.

To prepare a response to the City Council, we would like to collect your comments regarding this proposal. While we would not be opposed to the additional curb cut, we are not direct abutters and would like to prepare a response to the Council based on the reactions of those most directly affected.

Our response must be presented to the City Clerk before the next regular meeting of the Council on Monday June 2. If you would like your comments to be included, please contact either Jodi or me by stopping by or calling at 547-5625 (Home) or 576-7615 (Work). We look forward to meeting you and developing a response based on your comments.

Comm. from Scott Levitan on behalf of the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Assoc., Re: four commentaries by neighbors expressing concern on the petition of the Cambridge Visiting Nurses Assoc. for a driveway at 35 Bigelow St.

In City Council,

June 2, 1986

*Referred to the
City Manager*

*Copy sent to the City Manager
6/4/86 mhr*