



# City of Cambridge

98.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 27, 1997

VICE MAYOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to refer the attached communication from David C. Petty, regarding Cambridge parking violation #09266942-6 to the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department.

In City Council January 27, 1997  
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.  
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

lhp / dcp

Lucy H. Patton / David C. Petty

98

+1(617)492-1232

333 Walden Street

Cambridge, MA

02138-1317

January 20, 1996

Henrietta Davis, City Councilor  
120 Chestnut Street  
Cambridge MA 02139

KB  
FD  
AG

Re: Cambridge parking violation # 09266942-6

Dear Councilor Davis:

We all know that parking tickets in Cambridge are yet one more urban tax that we all pay from time-to-time for the privilege of living or working in Cambridge. If you look at my record, you will see that I get them once in a while and I pay them.


Something that really *irks* me, though, is the way meter maids pounce like hungry vultures on cars with resident parking permits that have expired at the new year. A case in point is ticket # 09266942-6, dated *January 2, 1997!*

*We live here.* Is it too muck to ask that we be cut some slack?

Isn't it possible to give Cambridge resident parking permits—that by definition belong to people *who live in Cambridge*—a one- or two-week grace period against tickets? I have not always applied for my permit by mail, but can you blame me for not wanting to rush right out and stand in a two-hour line? We're talking about the lost tax revenue versus the pain of your procrastinating constituents having to miss work while we all stand in line together.

I believe a grace period to be a good idea, regardless of whether people have a good reason for not having their new resident parking permits by January 1 at midnight. This year we moved from downstairs to upstairs and the electric company screwed up our billing address, so we didn't even *have* a utility bill that established us as utility-bill-paying Cambridge residents until recently. Whether we have all the prerequisites by the first couple weeks of the new year, or not, shouldn't matter. Like the majority of people who get expired-resident-parking-permit tickets, *we are still residents*—we just haven't gotten the sticker to prove it, yet.

Sincerely,

  
David C. Petty

cc: Cambridge City Councilors

AD

LO Refer to Traffic + parking



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Consent Order #98

CM-61

Vice Mayor Born, Councillors Davis and Galluccio re: Communication from David C. Petty, regarding Cambridge parking violation #09266942-6 be referred to the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department.

In City Council January 27, 1997

**ORDER ADOPTED**