

RFD Box 681
South Deerfield, Mass. 01373
Sept. 7, 1977

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
SEP 12 9 14 AM '77
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Dear Councilors,

I apologize for the condition of the enclosed parking ticket, but my friend, to whose car it was affixed, was infuriated by the apparent injustice of receiving it and impulsively ripped it up. I scooped up the pieces and taped them because I suspect she'd only be making more trouble for herself.

We parked in a "Resident Permit Area," whatever that is, and are charged \$15 for it. We're from western Massachusetts and don't get to the Boston Area often. How do people know they are in a "Resident Permit Area?" We saw no signs when we pulled into town from the Mass Pike. I don't recall any signs on Harvard Street where we parked (and where I always park when I come to town, always without incident).

It doesn't seem fair to ticket for parking in a "Resident Permit Area" on a street that looks like a perfectly normal street to park on. Perhaps local residents have maps which show them where they may or may not park, but out-of-towners are operating blind.

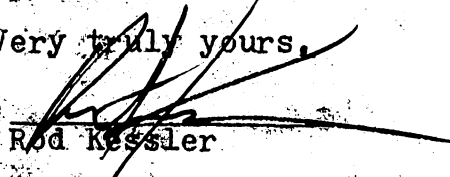
We feel victims of a trap. Can such a ticket be legal? I assume that the law is a city ordinance and that you, the City Council, should be aware of how unjustly it affects out-of-towners. How could we know the stop was a restricted zone?

Consequently, I am sending the ticket on to you. It would be to succumb to piracy for us to pay it, and it is difficult to come to court to fight a battle (\$15 is too much to pay, too little to fight for). I'm sure, considering the circumstances, you would rather not leave visitors to Cambridge with the bad impression this violation notice left us with.

I'll send a copy of this letter to the Clerk of Courts mentioned on the ticket, so he can clear the matter with you.

I hope this matter does not inconvenience you greatly. From what I read in the papers--and "Time" magazine--the Council has more important uses for its time and money.

Very truly yours,


Rod Kessler

cc: Clerk, Third District Court

S-467

Comm. from Rod Kessler re: Resident Sticker
Parking Program.

In City Council,
Sept. 12, 1977

9/12/77

Referred to the
CITY MANAGER FOR
Report -

Copy sent to mgr.
9/14/77 dl