

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JOHN H. CORCORAN
City Manager

May 1, 1972

To the Honorable, the City Council:

As requested by your Honorable Body, I met with Donald C. Moulton, Assistant Vice-President for Community Affairs of Harvard University, the Superintendent of Buildings, the Director of Planning and Development and the Assistant Director of Traffic and Parking on April 29, 1972, relative to the Broadway-Felton Street garage.

We reviewed the opinion of the City Solicitor to the effect that there was no legal basis for terminating construction of the garage because Harvard University had complied with all of the City's regulations.

We then discussed a voluntary termination of the work on the garage by Harvard. Mr. Moulton indicated his willingness to discuss this idea but pointed out that the parking spaces being provided in the garage are necessary for the University to receive certificates of occupancy for the new Science Center and Gund Hall as well as several other smaller construction projects. Due to the fact that the cost of construction of the various buildings, for which the parking spaces are being provided, is in the area of \$15,000,000-\$20,000,000, Harvard is understandably reluctant to terminate construction of the garage unless it has assurances the other construction projects could be fully occupied.

In order to provide iron-clad assurances that the Science Center, Gund Hall, etc., can be used, the City would have to amend its zoning regulations. Due to the requirements of State law for legal notice and public hearing before both the Planning Board and the City Council, as well as the City Council's required period for passage of an Ordinance, a minimum of two months would be required to amend the Zoning Ordinance and provide the assurances that Harvard would need. At the current rate of progress on the garage, the contractor will have completed the erection of the remaining floors of the structure in that time.

Thus it seems both legally and practically unworkable to terminate construction of the garage.

Next we discussed some of the problems raised by residents of the area about parking for their automobiles. Harvard expressed a willingness to pro-

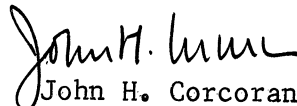
To the Honorable, the City Council (cont.)

May 1, 1972

vide parking for residents of the adjoining area at night and on weekends when Harvard's parking requirements would not be as great. There are some administrative details that need to be worked out and we have agreed to continue to pursue these.

Finally I have requested the Superintendent of Buildings and the Director of Planning and Development to give me their thoughts as to how the Zoning Ordinance should be changed to provide better protection for residential areas in cases like this.

Sincerely yours,


John H. Corcoran
City Manager

JHC/b

(23)

165

COMMUNICATION
from the City Manager ~~trans~~

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

relative to the Boradway-Felton St.
Garage

May 1, 1972.

Placed on File