

Subsequently we learned in the September 13, 2000, issue of the Cambridge Chronicle from a letter to the editor by Larry Frisoli, president of the Massachusetts State Soccer Association, that the lighted field had been promised to the state wide soccer program in exchange for the Lusitania field which was needed for the Neville Manor Nursing Home construction. It is now proposed to have these games in the center of Danehy Park at its highest elevation and a substantial distance from both parking lots.

We want to be clear that we are by no means opposed to the expanded use of Danehy Park for youth soccer and for local high school events. Although we may for aesthetic reasons dislike the replacement of a beautiful grassy field with artificial turf, we entirely respect the community's need for a better track and field, and raise no objections whatsoever to this proposal. Several of us have been or are actively involved in youth soccer, and we all understand its value to the community.

We do object strongly, however, to the plan to hold night events in the park. This objection is based on four central issues:

- 1) As anyone who has ever lived near a park with night events will know, the level of traffic and noise will be raised considerably, and will disrupt the peace and quiet of the neighborhood. Bellis Circle is very much a family neighborhood, with many children under the age of ten, and the sound and light pollution coming from night soccer games and their fans seriously jeopardize the environment in which these children are raised.
- 2) In addition to the vastly increased traffic and noise there is a serious added risk to our security. Even if the lights are turned off by 9:30, which is well past the hour that most of our children need to be in bed, the people attending and playing in the game will inevitably linger in the park. However strong the police presence may be, we are well aware that alcohol use and general rowdiness cannot be entirely controlled in a park as large as Danehy. Moreover, it is certainly not the case that only those attending or participating in the night events will be present in the field; the park will be open to anyone who seeks to enter, and this will endanger the security of our homes, many of which sit directly on the east side of the park.

- 3) It is our understanding that these events will not primarily be serving the community, but instead be used largely for adult leagues, including semi-professional leagues, that include teams from outside Cambridge. Contrary to publicly stated objectives, the majority of night events will not serve youth soccer, and will not enhance the lives of the adults and children of our own Cambridge community.
- 4) The hill and meadow/marshland of Danehy Park have become a beautiful, tranquil recreational resource not only for our neighborhood, but also for the whole of Cambridge. This natural setting will be seriously defaced by the installation of 80-foot light poles. The citizens of Cambridge do not want their elected officials to transform a park into a lighted arena for adult night soccer games.

Many other Cambridge residents join us in our fight, and we hope not to be forced to take this struggle outside of the hearing process in which we are engaged. We are, however, prepared to do so, if our legitimate concerns are not addressed.

All of the undersigned residents of the Bellis Circle neighborhood, with the unanimous support of the members of the North Cambridge Stabilization Committee, petition the City Council:

- 1) To prevent the change in usage of the park that would be introduced by artificially lighted night events
- 2) To stop all plans to erect further lighting or change existing lighting until reaching detailed agreement with our neighborhood representatives.

We are eager to meet with you as soon as possible so we can work towards a happy resolution of these issues, and assume that we will be informed long before any installation of or changes in lighting begin to take place.

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

As of September 18, 2000, 43 residents have signed this petition. However, we are still contacting people, and more signatures will be added.

Contact person -> Michael Siegel
tel # 864-3997

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

Signature

Name and Address

St. J. Greenblatt

Stephen J. Greenblatt
37 Bellis Circle

Ramie Targoff

Ramie Targoff

Michael Siegel
Keshi Munn

37 Bellis Circle
33 Bellis Circle
33 Bellis Circle

Lucy Leonardi

16 Bellis Circle

Alam - Alessandro

27 Bellis Circle

Camilla D'Agostino

27 Bellis Circle

Ellen Spring

40 Bellis Circle

Charles Munn

31 Bellis Circle

Mathis Latta

56 Bellis Circle
56 Bellis Circle

Ther F. Latta

4 Bellis Ct

Catherine J. W. Zymer

4 Bellis Ct.

Catherine Ezell

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

Signature

Adm Clerk

Isabelle Detry

Name and Address

Nique de CLERCK 32, Belles Circle
Cambridge

Isabelle DETRY idem

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

Signature

Name and Address

Penney, Dehl
[Signature]
[Signature]
Ann M. Mitchell
[Signature]

Bunny Dehl
2 Belle Court, Cambridge 02140
14C Bell's Circle, Cambridge 02140
14C Bell's Circle, Cambridge 02140
Tim Titcomb
6 Bell's Circle, Cambridge
6 Bell's Circle, Cambridge 02140
11
11

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

Signature

Name and Address



Yuhua Li 7th & Haiyui

JJ Gordon

Kemi Langkas

LOW LABROCCA 39A BELVIS CIRCU

39 Bellis Circle # B.

31 Bellis Circle Cambridge MA 02140

TERRI LANGKAS 39C Bellis Cir.

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

Signature

Michael Warren

Tatya Itzhak

Vera Kistiakowsky

Martin Langan

Judith E. Hunt

Name and Address

MICHAEL WARREN, 17 BELLS CIRCLE

17 Bells Circle #2 Tatya Itzhak

Vera Kistiakowsky, 29 Bells Circle

Martin Langan 39 Bells Cr.

JUDITH E HUNT 40 Bells Circle

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

Signature

William W Lichtenburg

Name and Address

54 Bellis Circle

A Petition Regarding the Planned Changes in Danehy Park

To: The Honorable Anthony D. Galluccio, Mayor
Members of the City Council

From: The undersigned residents of the Bellis Circle neighborhood

This petition formally requests that all plans to install night lights on the upper field of Danehy Park be immediately stopped until the city has reached an agreement with the residents in the neighborhood of Bellis Circle and other concerned citizens. As the North Cambridge Stabilization Committee --- which voted unanimously to support our opposition to the night usage and the lights --- stated in its letter to you of September 7, 2000, the proposal to convert the use of Danehy Park raises a number of problems for the Cambridge Community at large that have not been adequately addressed by our conversations with the Mayor and the city officials.

We are deeply distressed by the way in which these proposed alterations to Danehy Park have been handled and feel we have been excluded from the crucial stages of the decision-making process. The lights and the night usage will bring about a major change in the use of the park which presently closes at sunset, a change that will have a direct and harmful impact on the surrounding neighborhoods. We were not informed that discussions were underway to convert the park during 1999, were not brought into the discussions between the city and the state wide soccer community, and were only notified about a city-wide meeting on March 9, 2000, where the final plans were presented. When we did hold a meeting with the Mayor and city officials on May 26, 2000, to discuss our objections to the current proposals, we were promised that the planners for the project would investigate the possibility of moving the lighted field to the the lower soccer area abutting New Street, where there would be much less impact on residences and direct access to a parking lot. Although the Mayor said there would be a subsequent meeting to explain why the New Street proposal was unfeasible, this has not taken place. Instead, we were left to discover in the September 6, 2000 issue of the Cambridge Chronicle that city had received bids for the work on the field, and that this might begin as early as the end of September.

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Consent Communication #4

A petition was received from the
Bellis Circle neighborhood relative
to the planned changes in Danehy Park.

In City Council October 2, 2000

PLACED ON FILE