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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

90 Wrentham St., # 8

Dorchester, Mass. 02124

August 31, 1973

City Clerk,

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Sir:

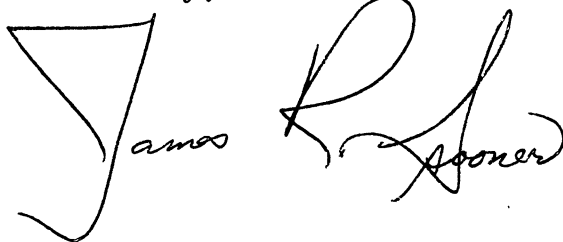
Several days ago on the morning of this previous Tuesday, August 28, 1973, I was going to M.I.T. in my car, a 1972 Chevrolet Vega (Mass. Registration # 646 054), having left work at Massachusetts General Hospital. I was heading towards Central Square on Main St. Just after passing the Kendall Square Rotary I proceeded to turn left onto Hayward St. After waiting to allow several pedestrians to finish crossing the street I completed the turn onto Hayward St. In the process my right front wheel dropped into a sizeable pothole (5 or 6 inches deep). A gas valve cover, approximately 8 inches square and less than a foot ahead of and to the left of the pothole (with respect to the direction of my approach), protruded several inches above the street level. The heavy metal cover punctured the engine oil pan and bent a part in the steering mechanism as well as a crossmember support. The car had to be towed to Seymour Chevrolet since the oil quickly drained from the oil pan. Including towing and front-end alignment, the damages

totaled \$ 97.44. I was advised by the City Solicitor to write this letter to you and to initiate proceedings through the small claims court against the City of Cambridge. Just as a note, this accident was reported with the Cambridge Police Department.

If there are any questions, my address is at the head of this letter and my phone number is 287 - 1232.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'James R. Spooner', written in dark ink.

James R. Spooner

28.

328

Comm. from James R. Spooner relative to
a pothole on Hayward St. which damaged
his car.

*Copy sent to Committee
on Claims 9/11/73 dl*

In City Council,

Sept. 10, 1973

9/10/73

*Referred to the
Committee on Claims -*