

RECEIVED BY
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1989 APR 20 PM 3:12
Matteo Giulio Luccio
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13 April 1989

Mr. Bernie Flynn
Office of the Parking Clerk
57 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

RE: Parking in "safety zone" on Western Avenue, Cambridge,
directly across the street from the Police Station

Dear Mr. Flynn:

Until January 1989 I often parked on the east side of Western Avenue, directly across the street from the Police Station. There are always other cars there, in full view of the entire Cambridge Police force, and I have never seen one with a ticket on the windshield, so it never occurred to me that it might be illegal.

In January I left my car there for a week and it was towed. I discovered that there is a city limit on the number of days a car may be left continuously parked in the same location: while extremely annoyed at this unintelligible and unpublicized regulation, I did not contest the two tickets I was issued in relation to this--namely, one for parking in a "restricted area" (C1, \$10) and one for "storage" (C2, \$10).

I was also issued three tickets for "safety zone" violation (E6, \$15x3=\$45). Neither the Police Department nor the Traffic Office were able to tell me the reason, so I requested a hearing. The hearing officer explained to me that it was a "common sense" kind of regulation, which does not require posting. So I went back and looked at the "scene of the crime": she was right, that is clearly not a legal parking area. I will pay the fine.

However, there are always cars parked there!! What about them? Why don't they get tickets too? The reason is clear: most, if not all, of those cars belong to police officers. (Most of them have stickers from a police association on the windshield and I often see officers in uniform, at the end of their shift, drive away in one of those illegally parked cars.)

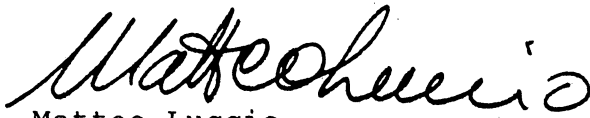
Such selective enforcement is patently uncivilized. I trust you will agree, upon investigating my statements. For your convenience, I have enclosed several photographs of the location, taken both during the day and at night (the date and time is indicated on the back of each).

[LUCCIO TO FLYNN/13 APRIL 1989]

I expect one of two outcomes: either no one is allowed to park there anymore or appropriate action is taken to modify the existing road lay-out and/or related regulations. My violation was unintentional and I have stopped parking there. But the ongoing, blatant violation of the law by those sworn to uphold it, even in a relatively minor matter such as this, cannot be tolerated. Especially as it alledgedly reduces traffic safety. (Personally, I don't believe it does, but, if such is the case, the regulations should be changed to reflect that.)

I thank you in advance for your sollicitous attention to this matter of concern to me. Please feel free to contact me at the above address should you require any further clarifications.

Sincerely,



Matteo Luccio

CC: Police Chief Anthony Paolillo
The Hon. Francis H. Duehay, City Councillor
Robert Healy, City Manager
The Cambridge Chronicle

MGL:mgl

Enclosure: 17 photographs

17.

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Comm. from Matteo Giulio Luccio, transmitting
a copy of his letter to the Traffic Dept. Re:
enforcement of parking regulations in the
"safety zone" on Western Ave., directly across
from the Police Station.

In City Council,

April 24, 1989

4-24-89

Referred to the City
Manager + Chief of
Police for Response.

Copy sent to the City Manager
+ Police Chief 4/26/89 alk