

OTIS STREET DISCONTINUANCE
Neighborhood Survey Results

Survey Category	No. of Responses
"Yes, Otis Street between Second and Third Streets should be closed to traffic and Centanni Park should be constructed."	134
"Yes, Otis Street between Second and Third Streets should be closed to traffic and Centanni Park should be constructed, but, only with the following condition(s)..."	20
"No, Otis Street between Second and Third Streets should remain as it is now."	23
"No opinion."	<u>3</u> 180

The conditions cited by those answering yes in the second category were the following:

- careful follow-up on long term maintenance and security
- the rest of Otis Street should also be repaired
- parking should be replaced
- a different name
- no dogs allowed
- Taylor Park should also be repaired
- improved traffic signals on Third Street
- truck ban on Third Street

The reasons given for answering no were the following.

- kids will hang out
- will become too noisy
- will bring in outsiders
- money should be spent on Taylor Park
- waste of money
- parking problems
- gays will meet there



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUL 18 8 35 AM '85
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
494-4100

THOMAS J. LARKIN, Chairman
Bedford
MICHAEL E. McLAUGHLIN, Lowell
BILL SCHMIDT, Newton

40 THORNDIKE STREET
EAST CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141

July 24, 1985

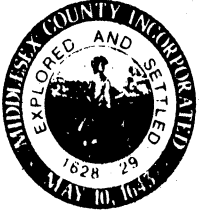
Cambridge City Council
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

The Middlesex County Commissioners would like to express their strong feelings as to the ramifications that would result from the proposal to convert the Otis Street block between Second and Third Streets into a park.

We are concerned that this change would have many serious and potentially dangerous consequences to the use and occupancy of the Registry of Deeds Building and the new Bulfinch Square Complex.

This conversion would seriously impair the functional capabilities of both of these facilities. Access to these buildings in case of fire would be restricted. The ability to adequately provide deliveries, rubbish pickup, and other building services would also be hampered by the restricted access.

In addition, the already serious parking problem in this area would be exacerbated by the loss of even more parking spaces which are used daily by the Courthouse, and Registry of



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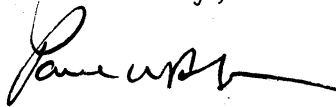
Joseph Connarton
Deputy City Clerk
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA. 02139

Dear Sir:

The Board of County Commissioners would appreciate it if you would distribute a copy of the enclosed letter to the Cambridge City Council members.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

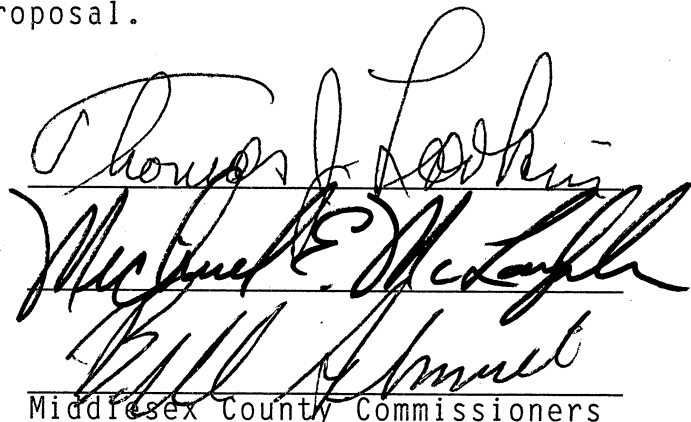

Paul W. Blazar
County Administrator

PWB:mq
Enclosure:

Deeds, and Probate employees. Equally as important is the use of this area for parking by local residents at night and in emergencies. It should be noted that the Bulfinch development has already resulted in the loss of more than eighty parking spaces which were used by these same groups prior to construction.

As an alternative to a complete conversion to a park area, the County could make the steps to the Registry of Deeds Building and the adjacent open spaces available as a social or common area, for public use. Otis Street could then be closed off temporarily without the serious effects of the permanent loss.

We respectfully request that the Cambridge City Council vote against the Otis Street proposal.


Middlesex County Commissioners

MCC:mq

Communication received from Paul W. Blazar,
County Administrator, relative to the rami-
fications that would result from the proposal
to convert the Otis Street block between Second
and Third Streets into a park.

In City Council,

September 9, 1985

12-9-85

Referred to
Caldwell & Ferguson
#1