



# City of Cambridge

95.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 27, 1997

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO

WHEREAS: Resident parking permits expire on January 1st of each year; and

WHEREAS: For any number of reasons, a resident may not have obtained his or her new parking sticker by the 1st of each year; and

WHEREAS: As a customer friendly entity, we should develop a way to alert people for a week or two that they need a new permit; and

WHEREAS: This Council received a letter from David Petty on this topic; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager, in conjunction with the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation be and hereby is requested to develop a plan for a grace period and warning system to alert residents that their resident sticker is expired; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to respond to the attached letter as soon as possible.

In City Council January 27, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

January 20, 1996

Michael A. Sullivan, City Councilor  
28 Putnam Street  
Cambridge MA 02139

Re: Cambridge parking violation # 09266942-6

Dear Councilor Sullivan:

We all know that parking tickets in Cambridge are yet one more urban tax that we all pay from time-to-time for the privilege of living or working in Cambridge. If you look at my record, you will see that I get them once in a while and I pay them.

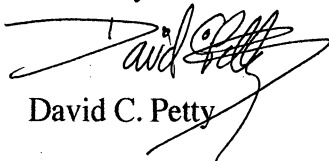
Something that really *irks* me, though, is the way meter maids pounce like hungry vultures on cars with resident parking permits that have expired at the new year. A case in point is ticket # 09266942-6, dated *January 2, 1997!*

*We live here.* Is it too muck to ask that we be cut some slack?

Isn't it possible to give Cambridge resident parking permits—that by definition belong to people *who live in Cambridge*—a one- or two-week grace period against tickets? I have not always applied for my permit by mail, but can you blame me for not wanting to rush right out and stand in a two-hour line? We're talking about the lost tax revenue versus the pain of your procrastinating constituents having to miss work while we all stand in line together.

I believe a grace period to be a good idea, regardless of whether people have a good reason for not having their new resident parking permits by January 1 at midnight. This year we moved from downstairs to upstairs and the electric company screwed up our billing address, so we didn't even *have* a utility bill that established us as utility-bill-paying Cambridge residents until recently. Whether we have all the prerequisites by the first couple weeks of the new year, or not, shouldn't matter. Like the majority of people who get expired-resident-parking-permit tickets, *we are still residents*—we just haven't gotten the sticker to prove it, yet.

Sincerely,



David C. Petty

cc: Cambridge City Councilors

95

Jan 27, 1993

Councillor Sullivan  
AG

Whereas: Resident parking permits  
expire on Jan 1, ~~1993~~ of each year; and

Whereas: For any number of reasons a resident  
may not have ~~received the mail~~  
obtained their new parking sticker  
by the 1st of each year; and

Whereas: As a customer friendly ~~to~~  
entity we should develop a way  
to alert people for a week or two  
that they need a new permit. and

~~Now the~~  
Whereas: This Council rec'd a letter from  
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WJG



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D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

Consent Order #95

CM-60

Councillors Sullivan and Galluccio  
re: Plan for a grace period and  
warning system to alert residents  
that their resident sticker is  
expired.

In City Council January 27, 1997

**ORDER ADOPTED**