

Cambridge City Council

I would like to relate to you what happened to me last year. During the Memorial Day weekend, I was sitting in my den, which faces Upland Road, when I noticed an unusual flash of light. I looked out the window and saw a fire on my property. Horrified, I immediately called 911. As I hung up, my door bell rang. When I reached the front steps, my neighbors had congregated and the fire engines had arrived. Fortunately, only some shrubbery was destroyed.

My neighbor told the fire department personnel that she saw a boy light up a cigarette and casually throw it toward my house. This callous disregard for other people's property, this inconsiderate, disrespectful act greatly disturbs me. I almost became homeless, I almost lost thousands of dollars which is the culmination of many long years of hard work. Besides cigarette butts, I am constantly picking up banana peels, coffee cups, soda bottles, liquor bottles, candy wrappers, gum wrappers etcetera on my property.

The only way to stop this and in the process permanently beautify the city would be to---

- (1) give the police the authority to fine, even if only \$1.00, any one who defaces public or private property.
- (2) attach small baskets, in which the bottom is held in place with a latch, to poles, trees or parking meters where people can dispose of rubbish.

The area in front of my house between Richdale Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue on the odd side is a good example. People use it to go to the subway and to the Porter Square shopping center.

My complaints before have fallen on deaf ears. I am sure you would not like to become homeless or see your apartment turn into a refuse area or lose thousands of dollars. Hopefully, this story will prompt you to do something.

Carina M. ...
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
1998 OCT -6 P 12:47

Consent Communication #4

6585

A communication was received from Corinne Mudanni, transmitting concern for the callous disregard of her property between Richdale Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue.

In City Council October 19, 1998

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