

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JOHN H. CORCORAN
City Manager

May 15, 1972

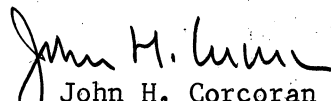
To the Honorable, the City Council:

Starting on Thursday, May 18, 1972, a series of test borings will be taken on the Cambridge Common. These tests are a necessary first step to determine whether it is possible to build parking facilities under the Cambridge Common.

For many years, various persons have advocated construction of a parking garage under the Cambridge Common to relieve the parking shortage in the Harvard Square area. Other persons have objected to the concept of an under-Common garage because of the potential effects on the historic and aesthetic character of the Common. Other persons have argued that it would be prohibitively expensive to build parking under the Common and such a project would not be economically feasible.

The purpose of the current tests is to resolve the serious technical and economic questions as to whether an under-the-Common parking garage is feasible. These tests do not represent a commitment by the City of Cambridge to construct a garage under the Cambridge Common. City officials are well aware of the historical, aesthetic, and legal issues surrounding the question of whether a garage should be constructed under the Common. The present study is merely to determine the feasibility of such a project. The decision on whether to proceed or not will be deferred until later when additional information will be available.

Very truly yours,


John H. Corcoran
City Manager

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from the City Manager trans-

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notifying the City Council that starting
May 18, 1972 a series of test borings
will be taken on the Cambridge Common
as a first step to determine whether it
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Filed