

 Robert J. La Trémouille

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January 16, 2001

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

David B. Balfour, Jr.
Commissioner
Metropolitan District Commission
20 Somerset Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Commissioner Balfour:

This is in response to your outrageously unfair session at the Morse School in Cambridge on December 12, 2000.

Barrios introduced the meeting and made a big thing about "fairness." Naturally he was talking Newspeak and was anything but fair. Generally, the public was good and neutral. The core group, members of the fake environmental group associated with the MDC / City of Cambridge, will be lumped below with Barrios and the people on the podium, all of whom, of course are so closely associated with your department that it is silly to distinguish among you.

The pitch was:

How dare you talk about what we are really doing here?

How dare you talk about the real plan?

How dare you talk about our record?

So naturally, the presenters talked about an "overall plan" which was described as terrific, but did not want the destruction of the Goose Meadow discussed which is part of the same plan as Magazine Beach.

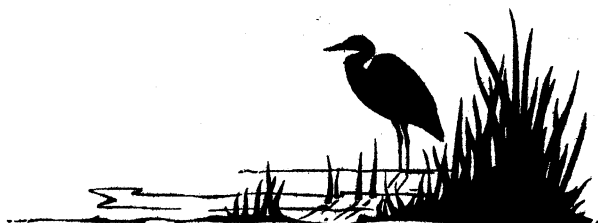
So naturally, the presenters talked about wildlife friendly vegetation without mentioning your repeated and highly irresponsible large scale destruction of wildlife friendly vegetation. Apparently the theory is to drive away wildlife by destroying their vegetation and then putting in wildlife friendly vegetation and wonder where the wildlife is. This is so far from reality, to call it incompetence would be a compliment. It is flat out lying.

Additionally, of course, the destruction of an entire grove of mature trees out of pure ruthlessness was not mentioned by your speakers.

So naturally, the presenters talked about erosion of the riverbanks, without mentioning the fact that the MDC's routine destruction of riverbank vegetation is the erosion cause.

There was no mention that public bathrooms would be paired with the commercialization of historical buildings, but those alleged public bathrooms certainly were bragged about. You also did not mention just how nonpublic the "public bathrooms" are in the private boathouses on the Charles.

There was mention of fair play in speakers, so naturally lines were made mandatory and were formed without telling anybody, so you know who spoke first: the presenters, acting through their buddies.



Quite singular was Mr. Corsi's comment that HE had never denied there were future plans for attacks on the area of habitation of the Charles River White Geese, when your department routinely lied about the existence of such plans when multiple people have gone to your department with the question.

As you can tell from the Herald report, Friends of the White Geese did make good points and made good visibility.

Your proposal and your behavior was reprehensible and outrageous. It continues the pattern of your department on this issue.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

1. Additionally, we get extremely tired of responding time after time to the same false statements. These include the following:
 - a. Any and all statements which, in any way imply that the destruction of the beautiful, ecologically balanced area beloved by the Charles River White Geese as their nesting area and its replacement with an environmentally stupid formal lawn that is now washing into the Charles River was anything other than a fireable action of incompetence by the Cambridge City Manager, by the Director of Planning of the Metropolitan District Commission and by that Boston University official whom the President of Boston University says does not exist.
 - b. Any and all statements which, in any way imply that it is other than fireable incompetence to take actions on the Charles River which negatively impact Cambridge and the Commonwealth's most valuable asset on the Charles, the Charles River White Geese.
 - c. Any and all statements that destruction of the Goose Meadow originated in the Metropolitan District Commission or in some public review process.
 - d. Any and all statements that imply that the Goose Meadow was destroyed solely because of characteristics particular to the Goose Meadow.
 - e. Any and all statements which imply that the Goose Meadow was not destroyed as part of a larger plan.
 - f. Any and all statements which imply that the Charles River White Geese will not be subjected to additional attacks.
 - g. Any and all statements which imply that the Goose Meadow contained nothing but worthless weeds.
 - h. Any and all statements which imply that some sort of bizarre safety considerations were the reason for the destruction of the Goose Meadow.
 - i. Any and all statements which imply that the destruction of the Goose Meadow was fully legal and fully in compliance with all orders of all reviewing agencies.
 - j. Any and all statements which imply that considerations of legality absolve anybody for the incompetence displayed in the destruction of the Goose Meadow.
 - k. Any and all statements which imply that considerations of legality absolve anybody for the incompetence displayed in the silly formal lawn which was created and which is

now washing into the Charles, in a location that formerly was a viable, balanced ecosystem.

1. Any and all statements that Boston University had nothing to do with the destruction of the Goose Meadow.
- m. Any and all statements that imply some sort of independence to statements from fake group(s) which are dominated by developer types.
2. The near secret destruction of the Goose Meadow is not at all an isolated matter and most definitely originates in the City of Cambridge.
 - a. Description of the attacks on the destroyed area as attacks originating in the MDC is outrageous.

The first plans for construction were presented by the City Manager at the Howard Johnson's / Radisson Hotel on Memorial Drive in September - October 1997. Copies of these plans, as modified by the MDC, have been provided by me to the Cambridge City Council. Statements by the City of Cambridge, the Metropolitan District Commission or Boston University which are contrary to the existence of these consolidated plans are false.

The plans which I transmitted to the Cambridge City Council were received by me in hand in August 1999 from the Director of Planning of the MDC. They have been previously provided to you after your department denied their existence on repeated occasions. The same plans were distributed by you at the December 12, 2000, unfair "fair meeting."

When I received those plans from the Director of Planning, she pointed out the one major difference from the City Manager's plans. I repeat, SHE POINTED OUT THE ONE MAJOR DIFFERENCE FROM THE CITY MANAGER'S PLANS.

- b. The one major change in the plans from the City Manager's plans is that the plans are more destructive to the Charles River White Geese. The plans include a walkway in the heart of the Charles River White Geese' sleeping area nine months of the year, between the pollution plant and the Charles River. This is a change from the City Manager's plans which put the walkway in the river next to the sleeping area.

Your department bragged about that pathway on December 12, 2000, WHILE PROHIBITING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS OUTRAGEOUSLY IRRESPONSIBLE PATHWAY.

This proposed walkway is highly dangerous to pedestrians. Its isolated location comports to a walkway on the Boston side which is a major problem for assaults because it is so isolated.

The presence of this dangerous walkway in those plans, in itself demonstrates the lack of concern for safety in the City of Cambridge / MDC. Contrary statements are nonsense.

This is part of Phase 3 of the planned attacks on the Charles River White Geese, HIGHLY AND PROUDLY DESTRUCTIVE OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

- c. In accordance with the City Manager / MDC plans, the City Manager has announced intention to destroy the Charles River White Geese' living room nine months of the year. This is in accordance with funding voted by the City Council in December 1999. The City Manager would needlessly tear up the perfectly good softball fields at Magazine Beach and destroy a number of trees.

The City Manager provided his schedule for this attack to the City Council at the beginning of May 2000. He has stated that destruction will commence in May 2001. Your and his latest announcement

changes that date to February 2002. Given the rather consistent AND PROUD pattern of lies coming out of Boston University and the Metropolitan District Commission, the February 2002 date is taken with a grain of salt.

This is Phase 2 of the attacks on the Charles River White Geese.

- d. Also shown on these plans is destruction of the balance of the Goose Meadow, within the 25 foot line connecting to the sewage plant area by a walkway under the BU Bridge, in accordance with the City Manager's plans.

This is the balance of Phase 3 of the attacks on the Charles River White Geese.

- e. Also involved are the City Manager's open space plans. These plans clearly show a connector to the destroyed Goose Meadow, moving north in a broken line. This is a pathway connecting to the series of pathways shown on the City Manager / MDC plans. They are enclosed.

This is Phase 4 of the attacks on the Charles River White Geese, and the only phase not showing on the MDC / City Manager plans mentioned above.

- f. Key to the plans are the two alternate Charles River Crossings being considered by the MBTA for a new rapid transit line. Maps from the MBTA for the two alternate Charles River Crossings have been provided to the Cambridge City Council. The City Manager has been fighting for a Regatta Subway station which would be near the Goose Meadow on the other side of Memorial Drive.

The combination of walkways connects the gentrified Magazine Beach to the proposed subway station and clearly makes that proposed gentrification a selling point for the subway station. The crossing of the Charles required for that subway station is far inferior from a transportation point of view to the alternate crossing.

3. The "safety" argument is outrageous.

Under the City Manager / MDC definition of "safety," no free animals would be allowed in the City of Cambridge. All of their habitats would be destroyed to be replaced with planned areas unliveable by free things. The "safety" argument is nothing less than a direct attack on the lives of any and all animals living in the city which are not controlled by human beings.

4. Your description of the Goose Meadow is outrageous. The truth is that it contained the following:

In addition to being the nesting area for the Charles River White Geese, this was also the nesting area for a pair of red-tailed hawks, a place where herons once stayed in the old dead trees. There was a lush little lawn of brilliant green grass. Wild strawberries, blackberries, apple trees, sumacs, and wild flowers like Queen Anne's lace, mullein, butter-and-eggs, ladies' thumb, evening primrose, and yellow hawkweed bloomed and provided food and cover for other birds and animals.

Marilyn Wellons provided a very detailed description to the Cambridge City Council on June 19, 2000.

5. To the extent it has any relationship to the very real issue of severe incompetence, the Cambridge Conservation Commission determined and informed the Cambridge City Council that their order was violated by the actions of your employees.
6. Finally, this presentation strikes me as an abdication of responsibility by you.

Your basic concept is severely out of connection with reality.

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You do not create the thriving ecosystem which was in existence near the B.U. Bridge by planning. You do not get living, beautiful beings independent of human control by planning.

You have a planning office that places no value on beauty which has not been created by people with degrees. As such your planning office has destroyed and continues to destroy something of incredible value which may not be mendable and certainly is not replaceable.

"Meetings" to decide the future of this area through artificial interference have no relevance with regard to the thriving, valuable ecosystem which has so irresponsibly been destroyed.

You used the word "native" without understanding of its meaning. "Native" is intended to describe a thriving ecosystem which has not been destroyed by man. "Native" is not a formal lawn devoid of living, breathing, beautiful animals independent of human control.

"Native" is not the Boston University Boat House and is not pathways imposed on naturally occurring vegetation.

"Native" is not a monolithic imposed, artificial environment which cannot live without control by human beings.

"Native" is what you just destroyed and you are planning to continue to destroy.

Except for item 5, which occurred after my letter delivered to the Cambridge City Council June 4, 2000, and item 6, I have provided all these matters in that June 4, 2000 letter to the Cambridge City Council.

All of these documents are available and have been delivered or offered to the people making these outrageous claims.

We can also provide an artist's rendition of the situation in the meadow.

We will be pleased to provide these documents, once again, to anybody who requests them.

Sincerely,

Robert J. La Trémouille

p.s. MDC statements of timing with regard to the Cambridge Conservation Commission meeting to consider the application for work at the destroyed Goose Meadow have equal lack of value. The morning construction began, I issued a press release on the Internet objecting to the commencement of construction. That press release was issued the day of the Conservation Commission meeting, before the Commission's hearing on the matter held after 8 p.m. that evening.

cc: Governor Cellucci
→ Cambridge City Council, c/o City Clerk
Boston University President
Richard Corsi, MDC

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Consent Communication #12

Communication was received from Robert J. LaTremouille, regarding the Magazine Beach plan.

In City Council January 29, 2001

PLACED ON FILE

Approved by City Council

City Council has received and reviewed the communication from Robert J. LaTremouille regarding the Magazine Beach plan. The communication was received on January 29, 2001. The communication was reviewed by the City Council on January 29, 2001. The communication was approved by the City Council on January 29, 2001. The communication was placed on file on January 29, 2001.

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