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November 25, 1996

To: Members of the Cambridge City Council

From: James Ackerman; Jill Slosburg-Ackerman

The Council is said to be considering withdrawing permission from US Shuttle to pick up passengers in Cambridge because the taxi companies don't like the competition.

The shuttle is essential to us because the cab drivers almost never manage to find our house. Few of them know the city well or carry maps. 50% of the time they end up on Coolidge Hill Road in Watertown. We get panicked if we have to make a plane, so the shuttle is a godsend. When visitors come to us after a cabbie has wandered all over the area trying to find his way, they get charged the full amount of the meandering.

The shuttle is clean; Cambridge cabs are the dirtiest and worst maintained of any city we have ever visited.

The majority break the law by not having operative seat belts.

The Council seems unable to avoid being manipulated by the cab lobby to the detriment of the public. If it must bow to that lobby, why should it not demand in return that the drivers know the city, that they carry maps, that the cabs be decent, and that all seatbelts work?

Consent Communication #4

5-628

Communication was received from James Ackerman and Jill Slosburg-Ackerman, transmitting their opposition to the City Council considering withdrawing permission from US Shuttle.

In City Council December 16, 1996

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