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To City Council:
From: Fereydoun Safizadeh
Owner: 18 Channing St. since 1977
March 18, 2013

Thank you in advance for your time, I wanted to bring to your attention a number issues related to the junction of Mt. Auburn and Channing St. and why the curb cut application at 16 Channing St. should be denied:

1. As you may know the corner of Channing St. at Mt. Auburn St. has been one of the most **publicly** used areas of Channing St. because of the Mt. Auburn Hospital, particularly since its expansion.

2. In real terms, to put in a curb cut there will take out 2 parking spaces.

   (20 ft. is the minimum to get in and out safely, given how close this curb will be to the turn from Mt. Auburn St. into Channing St.).

3. This a case of a very **public** space is being turned into a **private** one.

4. 16 Channing St. already has a **private carport** - able to accommodate 2 cars since the 1950s - and another 2 **semi-private** parking spaces along their wall-fence in Channing Circle.

5. The **private carport** was recently turned into a part of the walled-in yard; the 2 **semi-private** parking spaces along the wall-fence in Channing Circle are **in use** with a couple of very visible **PRIVATE** signs to make to sure no one parks there.

6. This was choice that the owners of 16 Channing St. made.

7. Now they are attempting to squeeze a driveway on the other side of the house.

8. I am opposed to this for the following reasons:

   a. A curb cut there poses a **danger** to the utility pole which would sits right at the edge of proposed driveway.

   b. There is a medium/large tree straddling the property line between 16 and 18 Channing St., which poses a **danger** to persons coming down sidewalk, as a car backing out of the driveway **will not have a clear vision** of the sidewalk.

   c. Most importantly, as the **primary abutter** at 18 Channing St. the proposed driveway will be right under our bedroom, and we object to being **exposed to constant car engine noise and fumes.**

d. Lack of two parking spaces and going in and out of the driveway will cause further congestion at the corner.

e. As a 2-family household we rarely can park in front of the house, and are often forced to double-park in order to take in groceries because of the **heavy congestion** there.

f. The approval form for the curb cut has been **selectively** presented to the **concerned abutters**.

g. Mr. Stohlman (19 Channing St.) and Professor Marshall (17 Channing St.) wanted me to provide you with their written concerns as they could not attend the council meeting today.

h. In sum, this application should be denied because it is not a carefully considered application.

i. A curb cut at this location would aggravate the existing congestion, create dangers for the heavy foot traffic, and add noise and fume pollution for the immediate abutter's life.

j. The petitioner had stated that they were not going to submit it after the concerns had been discussed with them sometime ago.

k. This slightly modified yearly application is becoming a pain and waste of for all concerned.

Thank you,

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