

Good Evening My name is Maria Pantazopoulos and I live at 225 Pearl Street and I'm a life long resident of Cambridge. I've come here tonight to oppose the daytime parking restriction to implement a bicycle lane. I've sent emails to the City Manager and all the City Councilors and am sad to say I only gotten 3 responses. To Mayor Maher, Vice Mayor

Benzan and City Councilor Craig Kelly Thank You for taking the time to respond to my concerns

And Tim Toomey

First of all I would like to begin by saying that I believe the study that was done is flawed. There are many

times during the daytime hours, that I find difficulty finding a parking spot near my home. I think that we must have a high unemployment rate or a lot of people that work from home, that being said

We have many young mothers and elderly people who live in the neighborhood. Anyone with kids these days will tell you they are constantly in an out driving them to/from school with heavy book bags, sports equipment and a musical instruments. The car fills up with bags. To have to walk a distance is a burden, let alone if you have a toddler in tow or heavy bags of groceries to Carry to feed a

a family. We have people who are elderly, who are arthritic, handicapped some who are diabetic all different ailments that would be a burden to have to walk to and from the car, if not having the option to park in front of your house. I have neighbors who have visiting nurses, specialists that come to the house for services that would be inconvenienced. Imagine going to Home Depot and getting a few bags of rock salt for your sidewalk and having to walk a block with it to bring to your home in the cold weather and icy sidewalks.

It's easy to inconvenience the cars/drivers who pay an excise tax, pay for a resident sticker and

an

pay to have the car inspected for a bicycle lane that's not used year round. There's a dramatic decrease of cyclists in the fall and winter months , you see more in the spring and summer, but does that justify taking away parking year round for part time bicycle use. Are the people that this will

be benefitting full time residents, that vote and have an impact on how the city is run ? We currently have a bike lane on Western Ave. Brookline Street and Vassar, that basically go to the same area, why add another on Pearl Street that's such a close proximity to the others and affect peoples day to day activities by taking away their parking.

We currently have a snow emergency and parking is very difficult, for this short time, but bearable knowing in a few days we will hopefully be able to have our parking back. I think the City should reconsider digging up and ruining the City Streets. Cambridge has gotten so congested and traffic is worse because the lanes are more narrow and the curbs are extended. We should be trying to make it easier to access the City especially with all the technology and pharmaceutical companies we have many people that come here, and the majority do not come by bicycle.

In closing if the City insists on putting in bicycle lanes they should also think about hiring people to enforce bicycle rules and generate income from it. Its sad when I drive one of my daughters to the High School

an I see kids cycling with no helmets, or Cyclists trying to pass other cyclists in the bike lane swerving into traffic to do so. Many times they drive down one way streets, and don't obey

traffic signals. Also a lot of the people who have bicycles also have cars, that will take up a parking spot for days at a time, because they're using their bicycle, and lessen the amount of daytime spots available.

Thank you for your time