

This evening I would like to comment on a handful of agenda items.

Councillor McGovern has presented a scripted policy order proposing outright subsidies and special accommodation for electric vehicles. I cannot believe that we are again, for at least the third time, discussing electric cars. The City Manager has already wisely dismissed them for all the right reasons. Even the granolas have to concede that electric cars are dirtier than modern, efficient gasoline fueled vehicles. **Whoever** suggests that we need more public charging stations hasn't checked to see that the existing stations get less use than any parking meter in the city. If people really want to buy one of these turkeys, they can surely afford the \$3000 cost of a level 2 system on their own because you need one for every car.

Councilor Carlone's Order #12 calls for an increase in public parking availability at the Green Street garage. The problem here, as it always has been, is the special allocation of reserved spaces for the exclusive use of city employees. It's supposed to be a secret. You Sierra clubbers should be spending your time on this one. Practically speaking, the garage spaces are too wide. We can get an immediate 8-12% capacity increase with a few buckets of paint.

Councilor Toomey graciously reminds us that street cleaning restarts this week. Hooray! Be aware or your car will be taken away by a towtruck that's not even licensed to be on the street.

Among other things, I intelligently addressed the above agenda items in my application to become the city's Director of Transportation. Just think- if I'd spent another half hour on city intersections Cambridge taxpayers would be a quarter million dollars richer.

Shifting gears completely, Councilor Benzan calls for a survey of liquor licenses in Central Square. There is no cap on the number of liquor licenses in Central Square. This makes a citywide cap seem silly. I hope that the Council will be open minded enough in its own investigation to include the License Commission itself. Sometimes an outsider like me gets the impression that Commissioners are more dedicated to protect existing licencees' finances than serve the public's interest.

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