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Stephen Fitzsimmons
3 Wyman Street
Cambridge, MA
22 January 2012

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Cambridge City Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Curb Cut Application for 9 Wyman Street

Dear Members of the Cambridge City Council:

I live at 3 Wyman Street, directly abutting the proposed curb cut at 9 Wyman Street. The proposed curb cut will, if approved, occur within five feet of my property line. I am writing to support this curb cut for several reasons.

First, each of the four separate departments of the City of Cambridge with responsibilities for curb cuts have already approved this application -- determining that it meets the requirements respectively of 1) inspectional services, 2) streets and sidewalks, 3) traffic and parking, and 4) the historical commission. Thus, the application meets the normal requirements established by the city for approval of this action.

Second, I believe that rejection of this measure would increase rather than decrease parking on Wyman St. If the measure is approved, than visiting relatives of the family will park inside the gate on the property itself. If not, they will then park on Wyman Street itself, thus increasing the number of cars that park here.

Third, upon examination of the architectural plan, I expect that the driveway will remove one regular sized auto parking space out of a dozen or so available (rather than removing two parking spaces as some have claimed). Moreover, since curb cutting will occur fairly far down the street (beyond where most short-term parking typically occurs, e.g., for the Cambridge Day Care Center), it should not interfere with the normal parking load for this street. One day a month, from May through October, Wyman Street will absorb parking overflow from Avon Hill St. for several hours for street cleaning on the even side of the street -- and only then will there be one less space available.

Fourth, it has been observed that, from time to time, children play on Wyman Street. I have lived at this address for twenty years now and can state that, while such use does occur, such use is rather infrequent and typically occurs only on weekends. Moreover, when children are playing in the street, and a car drives into the street, the children typically step aside until the car has parked or pulled

into one of the driveways on the street; this has not been a problem. Such limited usage may be due to the fact that there now is a large park in which children do play (Raymond Park) that is located very near to Wyman Street -- at the intersection of Raymond Street and Upland Road.

Finally, while opposition does exist on the part of some neighbors, other neighbors support this application. First, among the four residents with Wyman Street addresses, two support the application while two oppose it. Second, a number of neighbors not on Wyman Street support this measure while others oppose it. However, given that some opposition does exist, the applicants have made a number of modifications in the design to minimize any environmental and spatial impacts.

In conclusion, I believe that the owners of the 9 Wyman Street property have done what they reasonably could do to accommodate neighbors' concerns. Furthermore, as I understand the Cambridge statutes and regulations that govern this application, it has met all standard statutory requirements. I therefore request that the city council approve this curb cut application.

Thank you and Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Fitzsimmons". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "S".

Stephen Fitzsimmons