

**Lopez, Donna**

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**From:** onon2@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2012 11:17 AM  
**To:** Lopez, Donna  
**Subject:** Proposed Amendment to City Ordinance  
**Attachments:** FP Ordinance amendment.docx

I would like to submit to the City Ordinance Committee the attached proposal for an amendment to City of Cambridge Ordinance 6.04. 040 .A.4

This proposal has been discussed and approved by the majority of the ad hoc Fresh Pond Users Group, called upon by the Water Department, during our year long discussions of Fresh Pond usage and rules.

Regards, Peter B. Wilkins  
617-484-3185

## Proposed amendment to Cambridge City Ordinance.

Ordinance # 6.04.040.A.4 (Current)

All dogs using the City's off-leash dog areas must have a current Cambridge dog license, which must be displayed on the dog at all times. ADD

(Proposed amendment)

The exception to this ordinance is Fresh Pond where all dogs may be off leash provided those dogs have a current dog license from their area of residence, which must be displayed on the dog at all times;

Fresh Pond (FP) users from all contiguous communities have become a community within themselves, and are considerate, responsible, respectful users of FP.

Cambridge as a whole has a very effective, existing, means of controlling numbers. Parking in Cambridge is notoriously sparse for non-residents. I, like many other Non-Cambridge Residents (N-CRs), can walk the short distance from my house in Belmont to the pond.

Cambridge has a justly earned reputation for being a welcoming, non-discriminating city. Why be xenophobic on this one small issue?

- FP users are a cohesive community in themselves comprising members from contiguous towns whose catchment area is probably a maximum of 2 miles radius from FP.
- FP has been improved using MA taxpayers (N-CR) money as a part of CPA funding.
- At least one N-CR has donated and erected a public seat at FP.
- Many N-CR dog owners already help at FP by picking up trash left by picnickers, teen drinkers, runners, and other users as they walk around FP.
- Many senior N-CR dog owners could not afford to pay an extra fee to Cambridge after already paying a license fee to their own towns.
- Statistics show that if you reduce the number of people in an area like FP by limiting access, then both crime and vandalism increase.
- **N-CRs are not looking for parking spaces**, but merely to have the same off-leash privileges for their dogs at Fresh Pond as Cambridge residents.
- If a Cambridge resident is caring for the dog of an N-CR friend is that Cambridge resident also discriminated against?
- Enforcement of the non-resident dog issue detracts from enforcement of other more serious issues at FP.
- There will be no huge influx of N-CR dog walkers to FP as a result of allowing N-CR dogs to be off-leash. The existing parking restrictions will prevent that from happening.
- Cambridge does not discriminate against undocumented immigrants, why does the city discriminate against your good neighbors who are hosts to your water sources and reservoirs?

Peter B. Wilkins  
74 Livermore Rd  
Belmont, MA 02478

Tel: 617-484-3185  
Email: onon2@verizon.net