



Timothy P. McCarthy, Chair  
Committee on City, Neighborhood Services and Veterans Affairs  
Boston City Council  
One City Hall Square – Fifth Floor  
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Docket #1624  
Order for a hearing to review the results of the 2015 Fenway parking ordinance

November 17, 2015

Dear Councilor McCarthy:

Fenway Civic Association (FCA) is the Fenway's oldest and only all-volunteer neighborhood organization that accepts no public or developer funds. Formed in 1961, our mission is to promote a vital and livable neighborhood.

We are writing to express our support for the ordinance offered by Councilor Josh Zakim, docket 0267, which was passed by City Council and signed into law this past April, and further support making permanent the increase of fines for residential parking violations in the Fenway/Kenmore Residential Parking District during Fenway Park events from \$40 to \$100.

The Fenway neighborhood, long known for its superlative cultural, institutional, and athletic facilities, is also home to a vibrant and growing residential neighborhood. Our residents welcome the diverse offerings of the Fenway, from the excitement of Red Sox games to the respite of the Back Bay Fens and its Victory Gardens. But we have long been subject to adverse impacts caused by event-related parking abuse in our area.

The \$40.00 fine for residential parking violations is well under the market rate cost for Fenway Park event parking rates and had created dysfunctional cycles, whereby visitors gladly accepted parking tickets as a savings to their overall event budgets. By placing special conditions in the Fenway/Kenmore Residential Parking District during Fenway Park Events and increasing fines during these events to \$100.00, we believe that this condition has been substantially mitigated, that visitors have increasingly utilized existing event parking as well as other modes of transit, and that legitimately registered residents have subsequently been able to park in the spaces provided for their use. Reports from residents to our board have supported that the result of this legislation has been a marked improvement in parking conditions for our neighborhood. We have heard of no reports from businesses in and around the ball park that this ordinance resulted in adverse impacts to their clients or to overall profitability.

We believe that the City has benefitted from this ordinance not only by increasing the collection of fines, but by helping support the existing parking and transit infrastructure during events at the park. As event goers cease circling through city streets as a means of usurping residential spaces, the access and efficiency of existing transit corridors is better supported. This helps not only residents who are returning from work, but those who need to travel through our neighborhood.

We greatly appreciate the support of the City in allowing the pilot testing of this ordinance, and hope that in evaluating its impacts, you agree its permanent adoption is in the interest of our neighborhood and of Boston. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Horn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tim Horn  
President, Fenway Civic Organization