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to: <freidy@town.arlington.ma.us>, <amaher@town.arlington.ma.us>, <lcosta@town.arlington.ma.us>

Dear Members of the Select Board and the Parking Sub-Committee,

I am writing to you to request a long term waiver for overnight street parking for my family due to the following circumstances.

My wife and I purchased our house at 43 Thorndike Street this July, and, together with our now 7 month old son, we have quickly, and with great joy, made ourselves a home in Arlington. My wife and I have two cars, and since our driveway only fits one car, we have had to park on the street directly in front of our house. I am aware of the no overnight street parking restriction, even for residents, and numerous alternatives have been suggested to us, but, unfortunately none are feasible solutions.

Unfortunately, our current driveway is only suitable for parking one vehicle. We have looked into expanding our driveway, but due to property lines and the placement of our house, no construction can be done to our driveway to alleviate this problem.

Some have suggested we utilize a municipal lot. However, given that both my wife and myself work full time and our son was born with underlying health conditions, having ready access to our vehicle(s) is a necessity for work and appointments. Having to travel to retrieve a vehicle given an emergency or other situation isn't possible. Furthermore, the possibility of our vehicle incurring any damage or theft being parked in a public lot is a chance that I'd prefer not to take as I would understand that if anything like that were to occur it would be our responsibility and not the town's.

Others have suggested renting space in a neighbor's driveway. While this seems possible, I believe it presents a bit of a logistical problem as well as relying on others. Our home is one of the few single family homes on Thorndike Street. If we were to explore this option, we'd be asking to add another vehicle to what is likely a daily shuffling of cars for many of the two family residences on our street. Furthermore, the cost of an arrangement like this is simply something we cannot incur.

I will likely exhaust my fourteen temporary waivers for the year by the end of September to avoid being ticketed. After that, I don't know what we will do and that is why I am petitioning the Select Board and the Parking Sub-Committee at this time.

My hope is that these reasons will allow my family to procure a long term waiver for our parking situation from the Town of Arlington. I will offer the stipulation that I will always keep my vehicle parked in the area directly in front of our house so as to limit disruption to our neighbors on this street.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Matt O'Connor
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