

October 26, 2006, 4:00 p.m.

Dear Mr. Kotzuba:

Thanks for meeting with me yesterday when Lawrence Murphy was not available, and for your voicemail message this morning.

This is my first ever attempt to request a "Temporary Parking Restrictions Permit." It is much more complicated than I expected when I first inquired about it a month ago.

When I called your office then, I was given Mr. Murphy's line; but he was "away from his desk" and apparently has been, much of the time, since then. I was told to come in "about a week before the time you want"; but when I attempted to do that last Friday, I found that the office would be closing in a few minutes, at 12:00 noon. The weekend intervened. Then on Monday I was on work assignment out of town all day. So I came to the Department of Traffic and Parking on Tuesday, Oct. 24, but was told to return at noon to speak with Mr. Murphy. I did so, but then I was told he would not be in until noon on Wednesday. Nevertheless, I left a completed request form for a "Temporary Parking Restrictions Permit. Then I returned at noon on Wednesday but was told to "check back in about an hour." I returned then, but Mr. Murphy was still not available; so I waited, and about 2 p.m. you yourself came out to speak with me about my request. I didn't realize at the time that you are the Director. Thank you very much for your involvement.

Wheels of Justice is a nationally touring bus, based in Wisconsin, which has toured the U.S.A. in the past few years with a graphic message of peace, nonviolence, and justice--values which the overwhelming majority of people/Americans/Somerville citizens believe in. This week it has been invited to appear at Simmons College, M.I.T., Harvard and Somerville as a timely , public service in view of the ballot questions in the upcoming Nov. 7 election.

The vehicle we wish to park in Davis Square on Saturday (and, in view of the prediction of rain and wind that day, also on Sunday) is an old, reconfigured and repainted school bus called "The Wheels of Justice."

You asked to know the size of the bus. According to my measurements last night, it is 35 feet long, 7 feet wide, and 10 feet high--exactly twice the length of my 1989 Pontiac Bonneville. It would fit exactly in the Loading Zone in front of the Citizens Bank ATM at One Holland Street (my 1st choice for parking)--just ahead of the frequently-visiting Tufts Shuttle Bus of the same size. It would also fit easily, with feet to spare, at parking meters #C197 and #C198 in front of 278 Elm Street (2nd choice) and meters #C421 and #C22 in front of Johnny D's 3rd choice).

Today, however, you have a different concern. In fact, you say "It is creating some issues in the highest reaches of City Hall." I am flattered by Mayor Curtatone's attention to my request; but micromanagement of parking meters does not seem to be the best use of his time. You say, "We need to know exactly what your organization affiliation is. We also need to know exactly, word for word, what this proposed message is going to say."

I am proud to be a sponsor of the Wheels of Justice Tour, and I refer you to their excellent web site: www.justicewheels.org.

The bus, which has been repainted in red, blue, yellow, purple, green, white and black,

has the following messages written on it, as I recall: Across the top, along the sides – Wheels of Justice Tour, www.justicewheels.org" On each side it also says, "NONVIOLENCE OR NONEXISTENCE." On the front it says, "WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER." On the rear door it says, Occupation: the roadmap to nowhere. Justice: the roadmap to peace. There is a bumper sticker that reads, "Iraq is Arabic for "Vietnam." The phone number for the Tour Manager is also written on the bus: (773) 501-8261. His name is Dan Pearson. The bus driver, Bill Hill, is a Vietnam veteran.

It seems to be that it is too much trouble to ask for non-parking meter parking; and for parking meters we only need a couple of bags. I hope you will approve them for one of the pair of meters listed above--in front of 278 Elm Street or in front of Johnny D's.

Please reply to me by e-mail ([\[email\]](#)), by phone (617-----), or by mail (Bob Cable, [\[address\]](#), Somerville, MA 02143). Thank you very much for your time and concern.

Sincerely,

Bob Cable