

Creedon, Paul

From: Ivan Bereznicki <ivan@bereznicki.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2016 8:04 PM
To: City Council
Cc: Lopez, Donna
Subject: Wood burning at Shepard Restaurant.

Dear City Council members:

I understand you have received several complaints from our neighbors regarding the smell of wood burning in Shepard's kitchen. We live at 9 Wendell Street, less than half a block downwind of Shepard's chimney. We have a yard that faces toward Shepard where we tend to sit on summer evenings. My wife is extremely sensitive to odors; however, we must honestly say that we have not smelled any wood smoke since Shepard had installed their scrubbing equipment. We smell our neighbor's horrible charcoal starter for the barbecue, we smell fried hamburgers at Cambridge Common, occasionally we smell diesel trucks idling on Mass Ave, but we do not smell wood smoke.

We value and enjoy Shepard's contribution to making this a friendly neighborhood, and would very strongly object if they were forced to close their doors. More importantly, we are very concerned about what this kind of move would say about the social contract in Cambridge. Consider this: An entrepreneur risks a huge amount of money to start a community oriented establishment. They follow all the rules. When that is not enough, they offer to spend more money to improve the situation. The City agrees to their plan of action, and the restaurant spends an additional \$100,000 for additional remediation. Nearly everyone is happy with the results; however, a few dissatisfied citizens decide to take matters into their hands, and press on. Were the City yield to these few citizens, this will send a frightening message to all who want to invest in our community: Do so at your own peril, since a few people who do not like your business might come together and pressure the City Council to put you out of business.

I sincerely hope you decide not to go down this path, and let Renee and Susan continue operating the wonderful establishment they have had the courage to create.

IvanBereznicki and Marianna Chaikovsky Long - time residents at 9 Wendell Street