Media Advisory

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For Immediate Release

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City of Cambridge to Lift Parking Ban on Wednesday at 7 am

City announces free off street parking for Cambridge Residents at Cambridgeside Galleria Parking Garage and First Street Garage

Cambridge, MA—Feb. 10, 2015 — Cambridge will be lifting the Snow Emergency Parking Ban at 7 am on Wednesday, February 11. Residents who are taking advantage of the free off street parking program will have until 9 am on Wednesday to exit the Green Street Garage and the One Kendall Square Garage before being charged.

Residents parked at Harvard's 52 Oxford Street Garage and MIT's 65 Waverly Street lot must exit these locations by 9 AM.

The City is announcing an extended free parking program being offered at both the Cambridgeside Galleria Parking Garage and the City's First Street Parking Garage through February 22 in recognition of the historic amounts of snow that Cambridge has received during the past few weeks, including the 18.5 inches of new snow that fell over the past few days.

Residents with a valid 2015 City of Cambridge resident parking permit on their vehicle who are having difficulty finding street parking or are traveling for February school vacation week can participate in the extended free parking program at the Cambridgeside Galleria and First Street Garages until Sunday, February 22 at 8 pm. Parking for this program at the Cambridgeside Galleria Parking is restricted to the upper garage, levels 4 and 5. The upper garage entrance is located on First Street, closest to Sears. The First Street Garage is open, subject to availability. Vehicles without a 2015 Cambridge resident parking permit will be charged full parking rates.

Residents currently parked in the First Street garage do not have to exit once the parking ban is lifted; however, resident who parked their vehicle at the Cambridgeside Galleria need to exit and reenter through the First Street entrance and park on levels 4 or 5.

In addition to this free short-term program, the City of Cambridge offers a year-round discounted parking program at the First Street Garage to Cambridge residents with a current City of Cambridge resident parking permit on their vehicles.

Even with plowing and snow removal, streets in Cambridge and the Greater Boston Area are getting narrower due to snow accumulation. Prior to traveling, residents are asked to ensure that snow is cleared from the top of their motor vehicle to create safer conditions for those travelers around you. Drivers should use their best judgment when considering whether to park in areas where large snow piles are still alongside the curb, to ensure they do not block the flow of traffic.

Any parked vehicle that obstructs a 10 foot wide safe travel lane will be ticketed and towed.

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Updated information will be available at <u>www.cambridgema.gov</u> throughout the storm. In addition, the public is encouraged to follow updates on <u>Twitter at @CambMA</u> and on <u>Facebook at CambridgeMA.Gov</u>. The City will be utilizing the hash tag #CambMASnow on Twitter to help the public follow the conversation. Members of the public can also call 617-349-4800 or 617-349-4700 for information. Members of the public are encouraged to sign-up to receive notification of snow emergency parking bans at <u>http://www.cambridgema.gov/AlertNetwork</u>.

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