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City of Dover  
City Council  
288 Central Avenue  
Dover, NH 03820

Dear Council Members,

I am pleased to forward this statement of support for your consideration. Thirty-two years ago my professional business relocated to the Orchard Street location, having determined that our long-term interests were best served by locating adjacent to an area offering substantial and available parking opportunities for our patients and staff. We experienced substantial growth. We invested heavily in assuring our practice which now serves nearly 9 thousand area individuals and employs 26 local residents, would remain viable and accessible for many years to come.

Over these many years we often crossed paths with the City's Parking Commission. On all occasions situations detrimental to maintaining orderly parking access and availability were settled by mutual and cooperative consent. Issues nearly always centered on having sufficient access to parking within a reasonable distance, as many days the Orchard Street Parking Lot was filled. Time and again we appealed for consideration of a downtown central parking garage.

From the perspective of a "downtown" business, parking is paramount to success. Recent conversation with other nearby business owners validates our contention.

The present opportunity before the Council to resolve two seemingly unrelated concerns; providing the Dover Police Department with a well-deserved and long overdue modernized and suitable facility (given its rather dreadful current venue) and addressing a long-standing concern of Dover businesses - namely to assure

businesses that ample, accessible, protected (covered) parking to encourage investment and growth of the tax-paying, money generating, job creating, business community could be provided (via a financial plan elaborated in the pending Capital Improvements Program) seems opportune.

The assurances given to us and other local business owners that the construction phase of these co-joined projects would not adversely affect our viability is accepted. Meetings with representatives of the City, Police Department, and Architectural Design firm have confirmed that stakeholder businesses would be invited to work cooperatively and actively with the construction management team to mitigate any issues of concern.

Enabling the City of Dover to retain its historic charm, provide for the safety and security of its citizens, create an environment for business growth and development, and sponsor fiscal soundness deserves our support. The mutually beneficial plan presented to the Council has our endorsement.

Respectfully,

Dr. Robert M. Chaikin  
President, Belknap Dental Associates