

580 Prospect Street
Methuen, Mass. 01844
November 1, 1978

His Eminence Archbishop
Torkom Manoogian, Primate
630 Second Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Surpazan Hayr,

I am writing in an effort to make someone realize the situation in the Lawrence, Mass. area. Just recently our church, The Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church, 54 E.Haverhill St., Lawrence, gathered to vote on an extension. The extension is supposed to be built onto our church which would enlarge our kitchen, make our hall bigger and give us a few extra classrooms and offices.

The cost of this expansion has been submitted by companies offering a bid to do the work and it was approved at the cost of between \$200,000 - \$250,000.

In my opinion, I feel this is absurd. The location of our church is in a very bad location for the safety of our personal belongings (car and accessories). The area is also very bad for urban renewal due to the fact that Puerto Rican immigration is taking over the area. In the past three months, six cars have been vandalized and quite a number in the past have been vandalized.

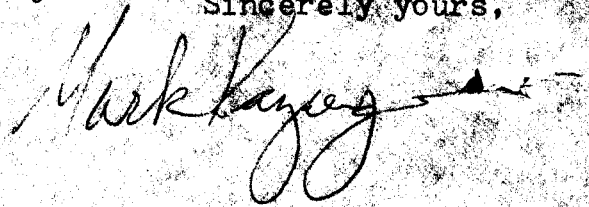
I cannot begin to reason why the members of our church can pass something of this importance when they fail to look at the consequences in the future.

Also, this expansion program does not give our youth any real encouragement due to the fact that it is being built without the youth in mind.

I am sadly disappointed in my fellow parishioners, and I feel sorry for the youth in our church.

Logically speaking, the money that is being spent on the expansion is actually being wasted. \$250,000 is not a small sum and for that amount I know we can do a lot better. To spend that kind of money just to expand a church whose future in a Puerto Rican neighborhood is unstable, is ridiculous.

I appeal to you Surpazan Hayr to view this very carefully and to check the details. Thank you very much. Sincerely yours,



Mark Kazanjian

(ACYOA Sr. Chairman)

(ACYOA Jr. Advisor)