To: The Ann Arbor Mayor and Council Members:
John Hieftje, Sabra Briere, Sumi Kalisapathy, Jane Lumm, Sally Hart Peterson, Stephen Kunselman, Christopher Taylor, Marcia Higgins, Marcia Teall, Mike Anglin, Chuck Warpehoski

CC: Sumedh Bahl, Colin Smith, Jessie Black, Stephen K. Postema

From:
Camp Take Notice Subcommittee for the Right to Eat and Receive Humanitarian Aid c/o:
MISSION
1327 White Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Sunday, May 26th, 2013

Thank you for giving us your attention at Monday's city council meeting, and for confirming both the value of Pizza In The Park and our mutual desire that this event be allowed to continue.

At this time, we, the Camp Take Notice community, are making plans whereby this event will be able to go on regardless of the availability of other organizations. The original hosts had not anticipated attending this Friday (5/24); therefore, we served the larger homeless community in their place. In the event of future gaps in the provision of aid, we will endeavor to preserve the tradition.

We would like to confirm Mayor Hieftje's words, as reported by the Ann Arbor Chronicle: "[Mayor] Hieftje [assured] that he wanted to see the event continue without being assessed a fee," do indeed speak for the will of the entire city council.

Whereas, the Ann Arbor Chronicle is not the official written record of the Ann Arbor City Council;

Whereas, future generations of City Council members will not necessarily be familiar with the history of this issue of Pizza in the Park;

Whereas, prejudice against the poor and homeless is likely to persist and cause this issue to reoccur;

Whereas, the providers of this aid over time will continue to be different parties;

Therefore, please consider the creation of a legal record of this celebrated freedom in one of the following ways:

1) Include a written account of the Mayor's words on this subject in the minutes by writing, "I believe that we all want this to continue." Followed with a note that no council members objected. Or,

2) Respond in writing to our previous letter. Hopefully, this would state that Council and its subordinate departments intend to take no future action to restrict the provision of humanitarian aid by the assessment of fees. Or,

3) Submit a motion, second, discuss, and vote upon a resolution that states the same.

While the last measure is certainly the most affirming step that could be taken to restore the faith of Ann Arbor's neediest residents, any of these options would satisfy our desire to see a legal record created that defends against a future encroachment upon humanitarian aid to the poor.

Sincerely,
Members and supporters of the Camp Take Notice community

Peggy Lynch ALONZO YOUNG Annell Chuff
John D. Beals Scott a. Lee Lora Geyer
John D. Beals SCOTT A. LEE Lora Geyer
Steve Shaing GREG DUCKERT
Greg Buchheuer