

Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:21 AM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: Support Override Vote

From: Jacqueline Minichiello <j.minichiello@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:05 AM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: Support Override Vote

Hello,

I am writing in support of voters getting the chance to vote for the override and support a tax override to keep the city moving in the right direction with city services. I support both 5.4 million and 8.2 million amounts on the ballot.

These points are important to me:

1. Support investing in our community, and any positive comments about the DPW, library, Rec dept, etc.
2. Willing to pay a little more to preserve 50-60 jobs and avoid mass layoffs.
3. Support adding a second option to keep up with required increases in the school budget, to support kids and families in our community.
4. Recognize that so many communities in MA are going to the ballot because of record inflation, so we are in good company. Malden's taxes and local spending have been relatively very low, so it's time to ask this question, and even if it passes our taxes will still be lower than neighboring communities.
5. Important to put this on the ballot, so Malden voters can weigh in on this critical decision about the future of our city.

Best,
Jacqueline Michetti, Malden Resident

Bainbridge Street

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Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:31 AM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: Statement of Support for Proposition 2 1/2 override

From: Daniel DeFraia <dandefraia@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:40 AM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: Statement of Support for Proposition 2 1/2 override

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for the 2 1/2 override proposals. Like many of our neighbors in Greater Boston, including Medford and Melrose, our city of Malden requires increased tax revenue to support essential government services, including the public library and public works. Most importantly, Malden must invest in its school system. Compared to our neighbors, Malden has relatively low taxes. Our tax burden per-capita is lower than our neighbors.

I moved to Malden with my family five years ago. Investing in our future will demonstrate - to both businesses and families - that Malden is a place they should invest in, too.

Thank you,

Daniel DeFraia

----- *North Milton Street*

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Morgan Hunte

From: Janice Rice <janicerice64@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:02 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fwd: Public comment 12/16/25 council meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Janice Rice** <janicerice64@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 12:57 PM
Subject: Public comment 12/16/25 council meeting
To: <cdesiderio@cityofmaiden.org>

Dear Clerk and Council Members,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to a Proposition 2 1/2 override at this time along with it becoming a ballot question at a special election in March. I believe this proposal was rushed through and now with inflated numbers there needs to be more public input meetings to discuss the shortfalls and alternative solutions. While the city makes a compelling argument, I do not feel this is the right time or fair to increase taxes on property owners.

I strongly urge the council to vote no at this time and revisit an override the following year if necessary. This would give property owners more time to budget, be better informed, and to lobby the state delegation to fix the Chapter 70 school funding formula, which appears to be the cancer of much of Malden's shortcomings. Thank you for your consideration in this matter and Happy Holidays.

Sincerely,

Janice Rice
Henry Street

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Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:23 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: City council agenda items 483-25 and 363-25

From: Jim Sumner <jms759@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:15 PM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: City council agenda items 483-25 and 363-25

Hi Carol Ann,

Can you please add the statement below to the public comments for tonight's city council agenda items 363.25 and 483-25.

Thanks

Dear Malden City Council,

I write once again to express my strong opposition to a special election pertaining to a tax override, agenda items 483-25 and 363-25. I have watched meetings and waited for weeks to hear from both the Mayor's office and the City Council's finance committee as to what they can cut from the budget. To date, I have heard no serious discussion of meaningful cuts to help offset this budget issue.

I urge the city council to vote no on a special election. Instead, I believe the council should work with the Mayor's office and find cost-saving measures before any special election is scheduled or held. Once that is done in a meaningful way, I could support one override related question to be put on the ballot for the regular election day November 3, 2026.

I ask each councilor before you vote tonight, ask yourself the following question. Do I think it is fair of the city to ask taxpayers to adjust their budgets and potentially go without needed goods or services when the city is unwilling to do the same?

Sincerely

James Sumner
759 Highland Ave

Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:25 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: Support for override paper

From: Caitlin Peale Sloan <cspeale@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:35 PM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: Support for override paper

Dear Clerk Desidiero,

Please have my comment read into the record at tonight's meeting, if possible. Thank you!

I write to express my strong support for Paper 483-25. I am more than willing to pay a little more in taxes to keep city services moving forward and avoid layoffs. No municipality is going to be able to dodge Prop. 2 1/2 forever, and it is time that Malden took a proactive step to invest in our future.

Caitlin Peale Sloan, 69 Columbia St

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Morgan Hunte

From: Katie Dillon <katjdillon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:35 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Re: Public comment submission

198 Mt. Vernon St.

Hi Morgan!

Thanks! Does this work?

I'm writing to voice my enthusiastic support for the override, particularly the two-tiered option. This option will not only help balance the budget (a problem that many communities across the Commonwealth are facing due to inflation) but will help us keep up with the required increases in the school budget to support kids in our community — a worthy investment in our collective future.

I also worry that if we do not pass this override, we will be setting ourselves up for a future that makes it harder for all of us to thrive. Not only will we be losing critical City employees like DPW workers and library staff, but the City's longevity is at stake.

At the November override forum Council President Linehan shared that the City has made critical investments in staff who help source grants and that this has a significant generational impact. I couldn't agree more.

I work in homeless and addiction services, and I've had the pleasure of collaborating with many people from the City of Malden in trying to find resources for our unhoused neighbors who struggle with addiction. I've never seen people work harder to help someone in need. And at the override forum, Mayor Christenson mentioned how staff from his housing office worked to support an unhoused teenager that very morning. All of this work is made possible by people who work to find grants to create and sustain these programs.

In other words, if this override doesn't pass, we wouldn't just be losing the folks doing the front-line work, but we'd be losing people who are responsible for finding funding sources that make the work possible. This loss would be devastating.

We deserve the chance to vote on the override in March so we all can have a say in our future.

On Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 2:05 PM Morgan Hunte <mhunte@cityofmalden.org> wrote:

Good afternoon, Katie,

Written public comments need to be 300 words or less in order to be read into the record. Any chance you could trim this down a little bit and resend? Without the good afternoon, intro, and sign off this was about 404 words.

Best,

Morgan Hunte (She/Her)

Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:34 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: Support for override

From: Matt Tong <mhtong@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:03 AM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: Re: Support for override

Realized I left off my info

Matt Tong
Ward 3
10 Desmond Rd, Malden, MA 02148

On Tue, Dec 16, 2025, 10:02 AM Matt Tong <mhtong@gmail.com> wrote:
I wanted to write in and voice my support for the override being considered.

Compared to many cities in the area, Malden remains a comparative bargain. Most cities and towns have already passed at least one override, and many were starting with higher taxes than Malden when proposition 2.5 went into effect or have other factors putting them in better shape (universities, large shopping centers, etc).

Rising costs are hitting everyone and making ends meet is hard - but the idea that this override significantly impacts affordability seems like a fabrication. Rents are several thousand a month, and tend to go up yearly (\$100/month raise not unusual). Mortgages are also general several thousand a month. Groceries and utilities also cost much more than they used to. The amount paid by local property tax is totally dwarfed by those expenses, and we're talking a couple hundred dollars a YEAR tops. There are many rising costs that impact affordability in the area, local property taxes are very low on that list, and cutting services by further cuts harms those dependant on those services.

All efforts should be made to fix the school funding formula that leaves us between the rock and a hard place of ever rising mandatory education funding and a cap on property tax revenue growth that doesn't even keep up with inflation some years. I have no kids in school - I love that we support our schools, education is important to me, but cutting everything else the city does to keep school funding means deep cuts to the things Malden does that aren't tied to schooling. The percentage of our budget mandated to go to education keeps climbing, and unless revenue goes up significantly that means cuts to services, safety, and infrastructure. To those opposed, what percentage of our budget being siphoned by the state for education would be enough that we'd have to do an override?

One can be penny wise, pound foolish. Short selling our future by cutting services to save a bit now is short sighted.

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Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:31 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: Public Comment for City Council: Support for Placing Both Override Amounts on the March Ballot

From: Kara <kara.young@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:47 AM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: Public Comment for City Council: Support for Placing Both Override Amounts on the March Ballot

Dear Council President and Members of the Malden City Council,

My name is Kara Young, and I live at 30 Glen Rock Ave, Malden, MA.

As a resident and parent of two children in Malden Public Schools, I am writing to express my strong support for allowing voters to consider both proposed tax override amounts, \$5.4 million and \$8.2 million, on the March 31 ballot.

I believe Malden residents deserve the opportunity to decide whether we want to maintain and protect the city services that keep our community running. Without an override, Malden faces significant cuts: an estimated 50–60 layoffs across multiple departments. These reductions would directly impact essential city services and the quality of life for all residents.

Including both override levels on the ballot follows a model that has worked successfully in neighboring communities such as Melrose and Stoneham. It allows voters to make an informed choice and ensures that, if both options pass with more than 50 percent support, the city will be able to adopt the level of funding that best sustains our staffing and services.

I also want to voice my support for the larger amount, as it would fully protect current service and staffing levels. The increase to property taxes is modest, especially when considered alongside the recent rise in the homeowner exemption, and it represents a crucial investment in the long-term health and stability of our city.

I urge the Council to vote to place both the \$5.4 million and \$8.2 million override options on the March ballot, and to give Malden residents the chance to choose the path forward.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Kara Young
30 Glen Rock Ave
Malden, MA

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Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:30 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: Public Comment to City Council Regarding Placement of Both Override Amounts on the March Ballot

From: Matt Monteverde <mattmonteverde@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:44 AM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: Public Comment to City Council Regarding Placement of Both Override Amounts on the March Ballot

Dear Council President and Members of the Malden City Council,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Malden, living at 30 Glen Rock Ave. As someone who has called this community home for many years and has two children attending Malden Public Schools, I strongly advocate for both the \$5.4 million and \$8.2 million tax override options to be included on the March 31 ballot.

We are at a crucial point, facing a decision that could have lasting impacts. Without an override, Malden is expected to face significant workforce reductions, with potential layoffs affecting 50 to 60 employees across various departments. Such cuts would greatly diminish the essential services that we all depend on. I believe it is vital for voters to have the chance to decide on the future of our city and the level of investment needed to maintain stability.

Other nearby communities, like Melrose and Stoneham, have effectively used a model that offers voters multiple override options. This method provides residents with a comprehensive choice. If both options receive over 50 percent approval, Malden can choose the funding level that best protects critical staffing and services.

Personally, I support the \$8.2 million option, as it would ensure the preservation of current staffing and service levels. The resulting property tax increase is relatively small, especially in light of the recent homeowner exemption increase. It is a sensible investment in our city's future.

I kindly ask the Council to include both the \$5.4 million and \$8.2 million override questions on the March ballot, allowing Malden residents to choose the direction that best reflects their vision for our community.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to serving Malden.

Sincerely,
Matt Monteverde

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Morgan Hunte

From: Carol Ann Desiderio
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:31 PM
To: Morgan Hunte
Subject: Fw: Tax override

From: Ann Warren <quinnwar99@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:50 AM
To: Carol Ann Desiderio <cdesiderio@CITYOFMALDEN.ORG>
Subject: Tax override

Malden City Council
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, Ma 02148

Public Comment - Opposition to Proposed Tax Override - Docket # 363-25

Dear Members of the City Council,

This was my email to the City Council this past September (below) and nothing has changed except we had one public meeting with no answers on proposed budget cuts or cost saving measures and now we're being asked to choose No or pick the lesser of two monetary requests.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed tax override proposed in City Council file # 363-25. Before asking homeowners and renters to shoulder yet another financial burden, the City must first demonstrate that it has done everything possible to manage existing resources responsibly.

To date, the City has not provided residents with a clear account of what specific steps have been taken to mitigate the need for higher taxes. Taxpayers deserve transparency and accountability before being asked to pay more. It is unacceptable to request an override without first proving that every effort has been made to cut unnecessary spending, reprioritize budgets, and operate within the City's means.

In that regard, I ask: when did the Finance Committee meet with department heads to thoroughly review their proposed budgets and identify cost-saving measures? Without this kind of oversight and public accountability, residents have no assurance that alternatives to a tax increase were fully explored.

Further, how can the City guarantee that any additional tax revenue will be spent appropriately, on true community needs, and not funneled into council "pet projects"? Without a clear, enforceable plan and independent oversight, taxpayers have little confidence that new revenue will be managed any better than existing funds.

What is needed is not another tax increase, but a full, independent financial audit. Such an audit would

provide residents with a clear picture of where money has been spent, where inefficiencies exist, and how the City can operate more effectively. Until this kind of accountability is in place, any tax override is premature and unfair.

Families, seniors, and renters across our community are already struggling with rising costs. The City must prove it is willing to make difficult decisions and reduce expenses before turning to taxpayers as the solution.

Yours truly, Ann Warren.
78 Rutland St. Malden, MA 02148

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