

From: [Martha](#)
To: [Carol Ann Desiderio](#); [Barbara Murphy](#)
Cc: [Mayor Christenson](#)
Subject: More traffic means more pedestrian deaths
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 3:06:23 PM

Dear Malden City Councilors --

I write to you to ask you to please preserve the bus and bike lanes in Malden. The environmental impact of too many cars is obvious, but there is also an even more immediate danger to allowing car traffic to increase: the skyrocketing increase in pedestrian deaths.

Massachusetts set a record for pedestrian deaths in 2022. This is a 22% increase over the record of 83 set in 2012.

Pedestrians are more likely to be killed nowadays because of the constantly increasing size of cars and trucks: SUVs and very large pickup trucks are so high that they hit people in the upper body, rather than the lower extremities, and are therefore more likely to kill rather than injure. The elderly, the handicapped, and children are the main victims.

Given the statistics above, as well as the growing threats of climate change, heat deserts, pollution, and economic stress, the more people who can walk, bike, or take public transportation, the better off all Malden residents will be.

Removing bike and bus lanes is a very retrograde idea and is not at all in line with the growing trend of livable, green cities, both in Massachusetts and nation-wide. If Malden carries out this dangerous and anti-environmental plan, it will fall behind other cities in attracting people and businesses. Please keep our city on a positive track of change and liveable development. Let's make Green Malden a reality!

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Kind regards,
Martha London
(Affiliation: Secretary, Metro North Chapter, Massachusetts Senior Action Council)

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.