

From: [Shane L](#)
To: [Carol Ann Desiderio](#)
Cc: [Ari Taylor](#); [Karen Colón Hayes](#); [Carey McDonald](#)
Subject: Citizen comment on item 298-24: consider vulnerable road users
Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 7:21:19 AM

Dear City Councilors:

I write urging you to revise item 298-24 before considering it further. Resident feedback about proposed changes to city roads is important. However, I am concerned that the proposed measure about citizen engagement for traffic changes assumes that all road users drive automobiles or trucks. 40% of the residents of Malden do not own private vehicles, and any proposal for public engagement about road changes should take into account people who walk, bike, and roll, not just people who drive.

The item before the council talks about public engagement relative to road changes that will “permanently impact the flow of traffic” or “reduce travel capacity in a material way”, and it just assumes that “traffic” and “travel capacity” refer to cars and trucks. Any proposal for public engagement about traffic changes should explicitly require that the city consider the needs of vulnerable road users. Otherwise, the current wording for item 298-24 is just a tool for blocking progress under the guise of “public engagement.”

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