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Gary Christenson, Mayor

September 8, 2022

The Honorable City Council
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Members of the City Council:

I write to ask for your consideration in amending the Standards and Regulations for Commercial Waste found in Section 9.20.040 of the City of Malden Ordinances and adding a new section to 11.08 which focuses on Streets and Sidewalks.

The first proposal is to address what has become an ongoing issue with several large property owners in the downtown area. These properties are putting out large dumpsters onto the public way, and leaving them for long periods of time, both full and empty. These have blocked sidewalk access, taken up valuable parking, and have otherwise provided an unpleasant experience for those in our downtown area. We have other large residential dwellings who follow a best practice of having their hauler remove and return the dumpsters to the inside storage area where they sit. This ordinance change would prohibit the placement of these containers onto the street before and after pickup.

The second proposal is specific to the proliferation of street and sidewalk markings citywide. Of course, state law requires the marking of utilities prior to the commencement of any work. This is usually done by Dig Safe. The proposed ordinance would require the party who requests the markings to remove them through pressure washing or some other means once the work is complete. It would also require Dig Safe to notify the Public Works Department of all markings done in Malden to facilitate enforcement.

Again, I would ask that you consider these proposed amendments and, in the meantime, please let me know if you need any additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GARY CHRISTENSON
Mayor, City of Malden

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