



MALDEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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Deb Gesualdo

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Secretary

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Malden City Council
215 Pleasant St.
4th Floor - Room 430
Malden, MA 02148

Delivered electronically

November 19, 2025

Re:

Dear Malden City Councillors,

On behalf of the more than 700 members of the Malden Education Association, I write to express our strong support for fully funded city services and appropriately staffed municipal departments. We understand that the Council will soon vote on whether to place a Proposition 2.5 Override before the voters in early 2026. We urge you to advance this measure to the ballot so that the people of Malden can participate directly in this important decision.

Our city is approaching a pivotal moment. Without additional revenue, Malden will be forced to make cuts that touch nearly every aspect of civic life. Public safety, services for seniors, educational supports, and access to community programs would all be placed at risk. Educators and municipal employees are already working within systems stretched thin, and any further reduction in personnel or services will have a disproportionate effect on families and neighborhoods across the city.

Malden residents rely on timely emergency response, accessible library and City Hall hours, stable school staffing, and the wide array of programs that foster community well-being. It



should not become the norm for residents to face longer wait times, reduced access to public services, or the loss of programs that contribute to a vibrant and functioning city. Our members ask a fundamental question: What resources and commitments are needed to ensure that every department can operate at a level that meets the needs of our growing community?

We recognize the importance of the proposed 5.4 million dollar override, but also acknowledge that it provides only a temporary solution. We urge the Council to begin planning for long-term financial strategies that move beyond short-term measures and toward a stable and sustainable city budget. Malden deserves a financial framework that supports growth rather than simply preventing decline.

We are also concerned about the proposed February election date. Severe winter weather may limit turnout, especially for older residents, working families, and individuals with mobility challenges. We encourage the Council to consider alternative dates that maximize voter participation and ensure that the outcome of the override vote reflects broad community engagement.

The members of the Malden Education Association care deeply about the future of this city. We want Malden to remain a community where families can thrive and where municipal workers have the resources they need to provide high-quality services. If an override is not passed, the resulting cuts and potential layoffs will have far-reaching consequences. We ask the Council to clearly outline what reductions residents can expect should the city be forced to move forward without additional revenue.



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We stand ready to work alongside the Council, community members, and civic leaders to secure a stronger and more stable future for our city. We respectfully urge you to vote to place the override on the ballot, explore long-term solutions, and ensure a fair and accessible election process.

Sincerely,

Deborah Gesualdo, M.M.Ed.
President
Malden Education Association

Cc:
Malden Education Association Executive Officers
Malden Education Association Union Representatives