

From: [The Downtown Paw](#)
To: [Carol Ann Desiderio](#)
Subject: Items 307-23 and 308-23
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 3:47:27 PM

Good Afternoon,

As a local business owner in Malden, I am writing to let you know my stance, and I'm sure others, opinion on the bus and bike lanes; Items 307-23 and 308-23 on this evening agenda.

I've lived in Malden my whole life, and recently had the opportunity to start my company right here in Malden Square. Over the past year I have heard on numerous occasions how upset people are about the time it now takes to travel to the square with the bike and bus lanes being added. The most common complaint is how they would rather shop elsewhere due to the inconvenience of traveling through the square and surrounding area. The bike and bus lanes have had little to no positive impact and have done nothing to help ease the congestion in our very vehicle centered town, regardless of how much the city of Malden believes that we are a biking city. Not only are people using the bus/bike lanes as a way to drive recklessly around other vehicles, who are trying to abide by the new driving patterns, but they have also led to an increase in bike-related accidents, some of which have been fatal. I have had customers who bike to every place they are going their whole life mention to me that they have stopped riding their bikes in Malden, because of how angry the drivers are who are using the bike lanes to avoid traffic. How can we be a bike-friendly city, when our cyclists can't ride safely?

These lanes have had the opposite effect that the city was hoping for and as with any change that is going to affect the residents of its town, it should be left to us, Malden's residents, to vote on.

Best,
Katherine Cruikshank

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