

From: [Alicia M. Garza](#)
To: [Carol Ann Desiderio](#)
Subject: Public comment for 6/17 City Council meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 17, 2025 1:07:14 PM

Dear Carol Ann,

I would like to submit the following statement to be read into the public record at tonight's city council meeting.

Thanks,
Alicia

Good evening,

I'm writing with regard to agenda item 313-25 and to express my deep concern over the attempt to remove Councilor O'Malley as City Council President.

While I'm aware that Councilor O'Malley has, at times, had a reputation for ruffling feathers, I've generally observed that he has done so in service of a genuine commitment to accountability and transparency in city affairs. Efforts to remove him based not on any alleged misconduct, but seemingly because he has asked hard questions, are extremely troubling and suggest political retribution. Even more alarming is the decision to take such a consequential vote behind closed doors, in executive session.

Removing the Council President is a matter of public trust. It deserves public discussion and public scrutiny. To handle it in a way that shields the process from the people of Malden is, frankly, cowardly and undermines the democratic values this Council is sworn to uphold.

I respectfully call on the sponsors of this order, and the full Council, to uphold the principles of transparency by conducting this process with the openness it demands and that the citizens of Malden rightfully deserve.

Thank you,
Alicia Garza
54 Bowers Ave

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