

**From:** [Andrew Smith](#)  
**To:** [Carol Ann Desiderio](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Ballot Measure  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 5, 2023 1:04:43 PM

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Dear Carol Ann Desiderio,

I would like to offer a statement on ballot measures 307-23 and 308-24 for tonight's City Council Meeting. My name is Andrew Smith and I live at 121 Floral Avenue, Malden.

My wife Nicole and I are a one car household. We moved to Malden because of its proximity to the T, as we aren't able to each have a car. Previous to living in Malden, neither one of us ever rode a bike much. However, the biking infrastructure in the city motivated us to try it out. It took a little time, but as we've grown more comfortable, it's become necessary for our lives. One of us can cycle to get groceries while the other is at work. Trips through the city that would have previously been done by car are done by bike. The car is still used, just not as frequently.

I know the traffic is bad. I suffer through it too, my commute in the car is over an hour. I don't believe the solution is blaming bicycle lanes, even if not all are perfect. I believe the solution is to find ways to promote other means of transportation, especially as so many Malden residents don't own a car. I was incredulous at first, but bicycling has felt great, saves money, and helped us keep a home here.

thank you for your time,  
Andrew Smith

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