

Dear Arlington Selectboard,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposal to add bicycle lanes and traffic calming measures to Medford Street.

Medford Street serves as a vital link between Arlington and Medford, accommodating both vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic. However, the current situation poses significant safety risks, with heavy trucks and high-speed vehicles sharing the road with parents with strollers, and people on bicycles. Pedestrians are rarely yielded to at crosswalks, and people on bikes often experience unsafe passing distances from drivers. This blend of activities on Medford Street creates a dangerous environment that needs urgent attention, especially on a residential corridor.

I personally have a friend that lives near Parallel Park, but I don't feel safe cycling on Medford Street or Mystic Valley Parkway, so I rarely visit. One time while traveling to her house, a driver honked and passed me very closely because I was riding on the street, telling me to use this sidewalk (which is illegal in Arlington). Experiences like this discourage people from riding their bikes.



Bicyclists of all kinds rely on Medford Street for safe travel; they deserve a dedicated and safe space on the road.

By implementing Arlington's plan to install bicycle facilities on this corridor, we can significantly enhance safety for all road users. Narrower lanes and flex posts will naturally slow down vehicular traffic, while dedicated bicycle lanes will align with Connect Arlington's guidelines, providing cyclists with a safer route, and pedestrians with shorter crossing distances. The few vehicles that currently park on the

street can utilize driveways and side streets, with strategically placed parking spots to support local needs.

I wholeheartedly urge the Arlington Select Board to endorse this proposal, ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone who uses our streets.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Petru Sofio
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