

Arlington Police Department

Juliann Flaherty
Acting Chief of Police



POLICE HEADQUARTERS
112 Mystic Street
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Town of Arlington
MASSACHUSETTS 02474

Date: February 4, 2020

To: Marie Krepelka, Board Administrator

From: Acting Chief Julie Flaherty

Re: Warrant Article, Minuteman Bikeway Hours

The Arlington Police Department endorses the By-Law Amendment to extend the operating hours of the Minuteman Bikeway from 5:00 am to 11:00 pm, with the Bikeway being restricted between 11:00 pm and 5:00 am. At a recent meeting with representatives from ABAC, we came to consider their concerns with the current operating hours. It is our stance that extending the operating hours until 11 pm is reasonable, practical, and in-line with the extended hours at other selected Town parks. We support "closing" the Bikeway after 11 pm not necessarily with an enforcement mindset, but as a community safety, crime reduction, and public order matter. Restricting operating hours after 11 pm is a "target-hardening" measure that we are confident will reduce crimes against the person (both pedestrian and bicyclist), noise complaints, property crimes, and reduce the challenges related to juvenile activity. We also understand that there are certain areas of the Bikeway that abut densely populated areas where making improvements in environmental enhancements, such as improved lighting, is less than desirable. We do not envision extended operating hours as an additional challenge to the Department or our mission.

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