

Cosgrove, Marybeth

From: Greenhalgh, Susan <greenhalgh@fas.harvard.edu>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 5:21 PM
To: City Council
Cc: Lopez, Donna
Subject: Bicycle safety of utmost concern to Cambridge residents

Dear members of the City Council,

I write to add my voice to the loud clamor for the city to do much more to ensure that every law-abiding bicyclist in Cambridge be guaranteed safe passage on the city's streets.

I live in Huron Village and bicycle to work near Harvard Square. I also take longer rides to the Minuteman and Charles River bike paths. Beyond that I do not dare venture, because biking too often is deadly in our city. The tragic deaths of Marcia Diehl, Joe Lavins, and Amanda Phillips bring this point home in a very up-close-and-personal way.

Cambridge needs to take immediate action to create a network of protected bike lanes that are separated from the car lanes. Without a physical barrier providing protection, cars will certainly intrude onto the bike path, posing serious dangers to unsuspecting bikers.

I live in one of the most dangerous parts of the city for a biker. Porter Square, where I shop frequently -- and where I may never dare to bike!! -- is hazard number one. The city must make Vision Zero improvements to Porter, and then turn its attention to Inman, where Amanda lost her young life.

The city must agree to fully implement the Bike Plan on a speedier schedule. Several of the areas that were not included in the Bike Plan -- including Huron Avenue and Garden St, where I bike a lot, as well as Pearl St -- deserve much more serious consideration, especially since the Huron B project is putting public bicycles right at Huron and Vassal Lane.

I implore you to take these life-and-death concerns with utmost seriousness. In the wake of Joe's terrible death, Cambridge has a rare opportunity to make a loud statement that it values the lives of some of its most active and environmentally conscious citizens enough to take every and all measure required to make Cambridge a model Biking City USA.

Thank you for voting YES on bike safety in Cambridge.

Susan Greenhalgh

17 Royal Ave
Cambridge MA 02138