

Thank you mayor and councilors for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Shelley Rieman. I live at 201 Franklin St. I am a member of the Cambridge Residents Alliance. The CRA wants lots of new, quality affordable housing every bit as much as do families and individuals who are under-housed, homeless, paying half their income in rent; and as do the city councilors, A Better Cambridge, employers and students. We also want to preserve the quality of life here, the diversity, green space, safe streets with sufficient parking, friendliness and neighborhood identities. We can respect the already approved and developing Master Plan process for smart, fair planning by approving building within current zoning limits. Dense, low-rise affordable housing is realistic and can and should be fast-tracked by using the linkage fee, set at no less than \$24.30 sq ft. Barcelona, Spain is denser than NYC. Paris, Washington DC, other beautiful and iconic cities have strict laws for heights within the central districts in order to preserve the beauty and consistency of a uniform skyline. A towering apartment building in Central Square would be an eyesore of mainly luxury apartments. The affordable units proposed can easily be matched and surpassed by building 6-8 story buildings, and utilizing at least one city parking lot for city-owned and operated affordable housing. Please raise the linkage fee and implement it asap. Build quality housing for Cambridge citizens.

As far as the proposed bike lane on Pearl St., my preference is for a pause on that decision until the Master Plan is complete. It's wonderful that we are biking and walking more than ever and Cambridge ought to continue to support car alternatives. There are bike lanes on Western Ave., Brookline St, Sidney St and Waverly Ave. all of which are parallel to Pearl and just one to a few blocks away. It doesn't seem to me to be a hardship to bike on one of these streets for the time being.

The last policy order I want to address is #18. I am so respectful and proud of my friends and other citizens who have done their research, put in countless hours and given their hearts, minds, time and energy to saving our world. What a fabulous opportunity for the City to use renewable sources of energy for all of our schools and municipal buildings. I am confident that the council will unanimously pass this order.  
Thank you.