

Creedon, Paul

From: Thomas Hall <tomrhall90@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2015 1:16 PM
To: City Council; Lopez, Donna
Subject: Bike lanes

Dear City Councilors,

I would like to add my support for protected, separated bike lanes as described in the Cambridge Bicycle Plan. I am particularly excited to see these protected lanes implemented along the dangerous Mass Ave Corridor, and on Cambridge and Hampshire Streets.

I live in-between Harvard and Central and while I'm usually a driver, I bike and walk frequently for local errands. I am very impressed with the new layout on Western Ave. It adds a nice barrier for the cyclists. While we have made so much progress for biking infrastructure in the city, biking is still incredibly dangerous and stressful in Cambridge. We have the funds to implement these changes, and they will surely prevent accidents, reduce vehicular traffic, and improve commuting for everyone (cars and pedestrians included.)

Best regards,
Tom

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P.S. Not directly related to bike lanes, but cyclist/ped safety in general:

One area I find particularly concerning is the intersection of Western, River, and Green St by the church. The lights are very poorly timed. There is not enough time between the lights turning red and the others turning green. I regularly see cyclists start up Western Ave on the green light, while they have cars coming at them (Northbound on Green St) who tried to beat the light. Also, most of the folks who are driving up Green St. are turning left onto Western while the pedestrians have the walk signal to cross Western. I think it would be beneficial to have 20 secs for pedestrians only and eliminate some of the more dangerous combinations. If one sits by the church and observes that intersection for a half an hour, they'll see exactly what I'm talking about. Not a single lighting cycle elapses where there's not some sort of gridlock, confusion or honking.