



Medford City Council
Medford, Massachusetts

MEETING DATE

December 3, 2024

SPONSORED BY

Emily Lazzaro, City Councilor, Isaac Bears, Council President, Kit Collins, Council Vice President

AGENDA ITEM

24-503 - Resolution to Request State DCR and DOT Set 25 MPH Speed Limit on State Roads

FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION

Whereas, speed is one of the most important factors in traffic safety and crashes that occur at lower speeds cause less injury, and;

Whereas, a pedestrian hit by a car traveling 40 MPH has a 1 in 10 chance of surviving a crash, while a pedestrian hit by a car traveling 20 MPH has a 9 in 10 chance of surviving, and;

Whereas, Medford has set a citywide speed limit of 25 MPH on city-controlled streets, and;

Whereas, Medford has a high proportion of state-controlled roads, including Mystic Valley and Alewife Brook Parkways (Route 16), Route 28, Route 38, and High Street (Route 60), which are Medford's busiest thoroughfares, connecting Medford with surrounding towns and I-93, and passing through residential and commercial areas, impacting the safety of people walking, cycling, taking transit and driving to school, work, parks, grocery stores, natural spaces and city squares, and;

Whereas, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 90, Section 18 allows City Councils to petition state agencies to "modify the speed limit on a state highway within their geographic boundaries," now, therefore: Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that we respectfully request and recommend that the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and Massachusetts Department of Transportation set the speed limit on Route 16, Route 28, Route 38, and Route 60 in Medford at 25 MPH.

RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL IMPACT

ATTACHMENTS

None