

Madalyn Letellier

From: Ert Dredge [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 27, 2023 12:07 PM
To: Ben Ewen-Campen
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: Writing in support of resolution #23-1162 de-prioritizing enforcement of Idaho stops

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Hi, Councilor Ewen-Campen.

Thank you for introducing this resolution and to the whole council for the discussion on July 13th. I'm heavily in favor of de-prioritizing enforcement of "Idaho stops."

For years, off and on, I've watched Somerville place officers to write citations to cyclists doing this maneuver in Union Square and several other locations in the city, not just during the 2023 initiative. I've never thought it was a good use of funds or time when so many motorists clearly need education regarding the most basic laws covering cyclists as road users, and I've often thought these citations to be actively detrimental to cyclist safety. When cycling I would *much* rather encounter a car half a block from an intersection with us both proceeding in the same direction rather than at the intersection, and when driving a car I'd much rather encounter a cyclist away from an intersection. The out-of-state safety data you cited at the July 13 council discussion does not surprise me at all.

Ert Dredge, Ward 3 resident for 19 years and Somerville resident starting in 1993.