

# **WalkBike Springfield**

## ***Working to improve Walking and Bicycling Safety in Springfield***

February 11, 2019

Domenic J. Sarno  
Springfield City Hall  
36 Court Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts 01103

Dear Mayor Sarno,

WalkBike Springfield is a group of residents working to improve conditions for walking and bicycling in Springfield. Presently the city suffers from over 4000 vehicle crashes a year, including 9 fatalities in 2016, 11 in 2017, and 13 in 2018. Slowing and ordering traffic is key to reducing crashes and fatalities. Better road markings, reduced speed limits, and reduced lane width are key components to the safety of residents and visitors.

Over the last two years the city has made improvements to street markings. Improved and progressive striping of our streets in line with Complete Streets, is an important part of the City's efforts to make the streets safer for cars, bikers and pedestrians. Springfield has increased bicycle lane markings from 2.5 miles in 2013 to 20.9 miles in 2018.

The city recently increased the funding for striping to \$160,000. This is an increase we applaud and believe is money well spent. With increased striping there is the additional challenge of re-painting an increasing amount of markings.

We urge you to continue to systematically increase the budget for striping over the next 3 to 5 years to both increase street markings and repaint current markings to improve the safety of travel in the City.

Approved by the Memebers of Walk/Bike Springfield

Sincerely,

Betsy Johnson  
Convener WalkBike Springfield  
walkbikespringfield@gmail.com

cc. Christopher Cignoli  
Matthew Sokop  
Marcus Williams