



## Medford Chamber of Commerce

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March 21, 2025

The Honorable Breanna Lungo-Koehn  
Mayor's Office  
Medford City Hall  
85 George P. Hassett Drive  
Medford, MA 02155

Dear Mayor Lungo-Koehn,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Medford Chamber of Commerce. Our chamber represents over 250 businesses, nonprofit organizations, and institutions in the City of Medford. The Chamber wholeheartedly supports a new city charter where each ward in Medford is represented by its own ward councilor.

Our members attended countless meetings, hearings, and focus groups regarding the proposed changes to the city's charter. At all those meetings, there was overwhelming support for ward representation. There was support for each ward to have its own councilor. There are certain wards and business districts that have not had their own city councilor for almost two decades. Each business district in Medford deserves its own ward councilor who will respond to the needs of small businesses. Several surrounding communities including Somerville, Malden, Melrose, Everett, Woburn, and Waltham all have ward representation. In those cities, businesses know who to contact to resolve issues and who to hold accountable.

After years of advocating for ward representation, members of the city council changed the charter proposal at the last minute, ignored the recommendations of the public, and reduced the number of ward councilors. We know that these charter recommendations require your approval before moving on to the Statehouse. The Chamber of Commerce asked that you only send this charter proposal to the next step if it includes a city council consisting of eight ward councilors and three at large councilors.

Sincerely,

Andrew Mather  
President