



Medford Chamber of Commerce

One Shipyard Way, Suite 302

Medford, MA 02155

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Dear Medford City Council,

The Medford Chamber of Commerce is encouraged by the proposed zoning changes aimed at fostering commercial development and strengthening the Medford business community. These efforts represent an important step toward making Medford a more attractive and accessible place for businesses to grow and thrive.

However, as plans for the Mystic Avenue Corridor District move forward, it is essential to ensure that existing locally owned small businesses in the area are supported and included in the discussion. The current restrictions—and in some cases, outright prohibitions—on parking facilities pose significant challenges for these businesses, many of which are already struggling to meet customer parking demands. Specifically, in the Mixed Use 3 zone, we strongly recommend that nonresidential parking garages and additional parking areas be permitted to better accommodate businesses, neighbors and their customers.

Furthermore, the Mystic Avenue Corridor District's proximity to I-93 offers a unique opportunity to attract and serve drivers seeking convenient access to local food and business establishments. Unfortunately, the current prohibition on drive-through facilities undermines this potential. Allowing drive-through options would enable businesses to better cater to highway travelers and capitalize on the district's prime location. Mystic Avenue already has multiple drive through businesses. We respectfully request that the drive-through prohibition be reconsidered and removed.

Thank you for your consideration,

Laura O'Neill, Executive Director Medford Chamber of Commerce