

Seaport Neighborhood Association

March 24, 2025

Hi All,

I am sending this letter about the plan to convert Sleeper Street from its current two-way traffic configuration to one-way southbound.

The Seaport Neighborhood Association board is supportive of the broad actions Boston Streets is taking at Sleeper Street. The reasons for the changes could not be clearer as we mourn the anniversary of the tragic death at Congress and Sleeper. We are supportive of anything that can be done to enhance the safety of pedestrians in Boston. Our sincere thanks for sharing the same priority.

All that said, there is one aspect of the Sleeper Street proposal we strongly urge you to reconsider. We believe the installation of a two-way bike lane runs counter to the efforts for safety and would prefer having a one-way lane. While understanding the reasoning for the design, we believe that it is counterintuitive for pedestrians to anticipate bikes, scooters and other two wheeled vehicles to be travelling against the flow of car and truck traffic. In addition, a benefit we expected from the overall plan was the elimination of northbound Sleeper Street traffic into the Seaport Blvd intersection. The two-way bike lane means that the intersection will still experience traffic flow coming out of Sleeper.

We are generally supportive of bike lanes and strongly supportive of the Sleeper Street initiative, minus the two-way bike traffic. We believe that pedestrian safety comes from sensible design, proper signage, maintenance of pedestrian sightlines and predictability. In our humble opinion, pedestrians will not be naturally alert to counterflow traffic of any kind.

Thank you so much for everything that Boston Streets does for our neighborhood and all the City. And thank you for consideration of this note.

Norm Lind
President
Seaport Neighborhood Association
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