



CITY OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
Office of the Mayor  
**Thomas M. Menino**

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**Mayor Menino Signs Boston Bike Lane Ordinance**  
*Ordinance will prohibit vehicle parking in bike lanes*

Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino signed an ordinance prohibiting vehicle parking in marked bike lanes or marked shared lanes. Mayor Menino's ordinance will be proposed to the Boston City Council and if approved, the new regulation will be a major step toward welcoming bicycles into Boston's established transportation structure.

As thousands of people travel into and around Boston each day on trains, buses and boats, and others choose to walk, bikes are increasingly becoming yet another popular mode of transportation, one that Mayor Menino strongly endorses.

"I strongly support bicyclists because they help reduce the number of cars in downtown Boston, alleviating traffic congestion and improving air quality," said Mayor Menino. "However, if we encourage bicycling in Boston then it is important that we provide safe passage and for bicyclists: safe passage is a clear passage. Vehicles parked in bike lanes and other marked shared lanes force cyclists to merge into traffic, presenting serious public safety hazards and I am committed to ensuring the safety of those who choose to travel around Boston by bike."

If the Mayor's ordinance is passed, drivers who park vehicles in marked bike lanes or marked shared lanes will be subject to a \$100 fine and a \$33 penalty if the fine remains unpaid after 21 days. The Boston Transportation Department and the Boston Police Department will have the authority to enforce the regulation under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws c.90, s.20A1/2, and both agencies will also have the authority to tow away any motor vehicle parked in violation to prevent accidents from occurring.

"Through the Boston Bikes program we have added several miles of bike lanes that are meant to ensure bicyclists a safe, clear ride around Boston," said Nicole Freedman, director of Mayor Menino's Boston Bikes program. "I'm very happy that City officials will now be able to complement our hard work toward making Boston a world-class bicycling community with the ability to enforce a law promoting bicycling safety."

The City of Boston has recently installed several miles of on-road bike lanes on public streets and officials expect to install several more miles over the next year. The City of Boston currently has design plans pending with state and federal transportation officials that will provide for incorporating a designated bike lane on Massachusetts Avenue which is slated to be reconstructed this year.