



CITY OF MELROSE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Administration–Engineering–Water–Sewer–Facilities
Parks–Forestry–Highway–Sanitation–Cemetery–Fleet

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NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING NOTICE CRYSTAL STREET – MELROSE TO MAIN

As part of the City’s Complete Streets project to connect bike routes through Melrose, a “contraflow” bike lane was approved by the Traffic Commission on September 20, 2023. The contra flow lane will be installed on Crystal Street between Melrose Street and Main Street. Approval by the Melrose Traffic Commission was based on community feedback and consultation with traffic engineers.

The neighborhood meeting to present the changes is scheduled for Thursday, April 25 at 6:00 PM. We will meet at the intersection of Crystal and Melrose streets.

Specific improvements are recommended to formalize the contraflow (reverse-direction) bike lane to improve the safety of both cyclists and drivers. Changes will also discourage vehicular traffic from driving the wrong way down the one-way street, which some residents have reported. The improvements are as follows:

- 1) Add “Except Bicycles” signs to all Do Not Enter and One-Way signs at both ends of the street.
- 2) Create a bike lane, rather than the shared lane markings which were painted (“sharrows”), to better separate the bike traffic from vehicular traffic and to clarify that the location for bikes to travel is not a “shared” area with vehicles.
- 3) Stripe the outside edge of the bike lane with a narrow double-yellow line rather than the typical white line, to indicate to drivers that the bike lane is traveling in the opposite direction. (The City has been informed that this is the only line type allowed for a contraflow lane.)

The picture below shows an example of a contraflow bike lane. If you have any questions, please call the Engineering Division of the Melrose Public Works Department at 781-979-4172. We hope to see you on April 25th.

