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LETTERS

Traffic cameras give us safer, calmer streets

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Pedestrians cross a street in Boston on Thursday evening, Jan. 29, 2026. ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

As traffic safety advocates, we hear from people in communities across Massachusetts: Reckless driving is an existential challenge for all of us, whether you drive, bike, walk, or roll (“[Push is on to let traffic cameras do their thing](#),” Page A1, Feb. 18).

Traffic violence on our roads impacts our daily lives and whether we — or our loved ones — make it home. Sadly, in recent years, speeding incidents have increased [while citations have declined](#), and we suffer the consequences.

We would all benefit from calmer, safer streets. As a society, we already know what works. Traffic safety cameras are a sensible, proven, and fair tool when paired with strong privacy safeguards and equitable implementation. They reduce dangerous driving without requiring in-person police stops. That means fewer risky interactions and more consistent enforcement focused on deterrence, not punishment.

Legislation [currently in the State House](#) would allow cities and towns to use this technology. This issue has broad support among those charged with keeping us safe: local police departments, municipal leaders, district attorneys, and the governor. By giving cities and towns the option to install safety cameras, the Legislature would affirm that every community has effective tools to keep people safe on their roads.

Galen Mook

Allston

The writer is executive director of [MassBike](#).

We have lost our loved ones

We describe ourselves as the members of the “worst club ever.” Unless you belong to our club, safety cameras might not seem like an urgent matter.

We know better.

Each of us has lost a loved one to road violence, yet we still travel on Massachusetts roads each day. For many, that means passing the site where our loved ones were killed. Increasingly, we watch dangerous, reckless behavior go unchecked at those same crash sites.

This article fails to emphasize that pedestrian deaths in Massachusetts [rose 16 percent in 2024](#). We are in an epidemic of traffic violence, and it doesn't have to be this way.

[Traffic cameras reduce crashes by more than 25 percent](#). In this “worst club ever,” we know that each life saved is an entire universe.

Our group, Families for Safe Streets Massachusetts, is a collection of survivors and loved ones of victims of road violence in the Commonwealth. We don't want anyone to go through what we have.

We support the thorough and comprehensive bills [S.2344](#)/[H.3754](#) to implement road safety cameras.

Alexa Gomberg and Mary Beth Ellis

Andover

The writers are representatives and members of Families for Safe Streets Massachusetts.

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