



# Stewardship Council

## Stewardship Council

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March 26, 2025

Dear Commissioner Arrigo,

We are writing to urge you to adopt Vision Zero as DCR's official policy in relation to parkway planning. Vision Zero is the "strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all."

Vision Zero is not a new concept to DCR. The 2020 Parkways Master Plan states, "Vision Zero informs the overall aim of the DCR Parkways Master Plan". The Council was first introduced to Vision Zero at the February 7, 2020 meeting where Stacy Thompson of Livable Streets gave a presentation that involved the subject, and at the January 16, 2025 Stewardship Council meeting, the Council heard from Director of Green Transportation Dan Driscoll on the Parkways Master Plan and the progress being made by the agency in creating safe modes of transportation for all parkway users. Mr. Driscoll mentioned Vision Zero in his presentation as a goal for the agency. But we feel that this language does not sufficiently prioritize Vision Zero as an organizing principle for DCR. We encourage you to go a step further and adopt Vision Zero as the official policy of the agency and to commit to the following strategies as laid out by the Vision Zero Network:

- Building and sustaining leadership, collaboration, and accountability – especially among a diverse group of stakeholders to include transportation professionals, policymakers, public health officials, police, and community members;
- Collecting, analyzing, and using data to understand trends and potential disproportionate impacts of traffic deaths on certain populations;
- Prioritizing equity and community engagement;
- Managing speed to safe levels; and
- Setting a timeline to achieve zero traffic deaths and serious injuries, which brings urgency and accountability, and ensuring transparency on progress and challenges.

Over the last 10 years, Boston, Cambridge, Somerville, Lexington, Brookline, and Andover have become Vision Zero Communities. Worcester, and the Boston Metropolitan Area Planning Commission are in the process to adopt Vision Zero. Having DCR joining them will demonstrate the agency's commitment to safe and equitable transport for all users of DCR parks and parkways.

Please let us know how the Stewardship Council can best assist as the agency adopts this policy. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dicken Crane, Chair

On behalf of the DCR Stewardship Council

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