

From: Sarah McColgan <smccolgan@mhoa.com>

Sent: May 30, 2025 15:00:04.000000000 UTC

Subject: Re: Bellingham

To: Cheryl Sbarra <sbarra@mahb.org>

Cc: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>; Mary Brush <mary.brush@mass.gov>; Zendilli M Depina <Zendilli.M.Depina@mass.gov>; Doris Cullen <doris.cullen@mass.gov>; csbarra@mahb.org <csbarra@mahb.org>; Lisa Stevensgoodnight <lstevensgoodnight@mma.org>; Chris Banthin <chrisbanthin@phaionline.org>

Bellingham has always been a little strange when it comes to tobacco.

Sarah McColgan
Mass. Health Officers Association
Tobacco Control Program Director
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The Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA) Tobacco Control Program is a technical assistance program available to public health departments in Massachusetts cities and towns. The Tobacco Control Program is funded through a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Technical assistance provided by MHOA to local boards of health does not constitute legal advice. Contact your city or town counsel when legal questions or requests for legal advice arise.

On Thu, May 29, 2025 at 4:51 PM Cheryl Sbarra <sbarra@mahb.org> wrote:

I know you don't!

On Thu, May 29, 2025 at 4:49 PM Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org> wrote:

There were some courageous folks there who spoke in favor but only one person there under the age of fifty. Most over the age of seventy.

And I mean no disrespect to people over the age of seventy! 🙏

Sent from my iPhone

On May 29, 2025, at 4:34 PM, Cheryl Sbarra <sbarra@mahb.org> wrote:

Bellingham is one of the toughest towns. TM would NEVER pass it.

On Thu, May 29, 2025 at 4:31 PM Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org> wrote:

Not sure if you were aware that Bellingham had NFG on their Town Meeting agenda last night. Mark Gottlieb and I were asked by the Health Agent to attend so we could answer any audience questions that he might not be able to answer.

We attended. No questions for us. But we learned a lot. Late night.

The warrant article did not pass. Town Meetings are not a good place to handle public health policy – lots of speeches about Freedom!

The BOH supported the measure. The Health Agent and new Tobacco Inspector wanted it but they knew it was a long shot. Back to the drawing board.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Maureen

Maureen Buzby

Regional Tobacco Prevention Program

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