



# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA • SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

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Regular Meeting

Sullivan Chamber 5:30 PM

Cambridge City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139

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## I. CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the recommendations of the Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) for FY2022. *CMA 2021 #212*

Community Preservation Act funds are allocated from the State to communities to help them preserve historic sites, create open space, and develop affordable housing. Since being signed into State Law in 2000, over 153 communities, including Cambridge, have signed on to the CPA to help fund projects in their cities. Want to read more about past and future CPA funded projects? Click [here!](#) This communication asks to split funding from the CPA by 80% for Affordable Housing, 10% for Historic Preservation projects, and 10% for Open Space initiatives.

The breakdown of funds is as follows:

Affordable Housing: \$14,000,000 (Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust)

Historic Preservation: \$1,750,000 (Architectural Survey Digitization Phase IV, City Record Digitization, Flagstaff Park Flagpole Restoration, Lombardi Municipal Building Roof Replacement, Historic Preservation Grants, and Winthrop Wall Restoration Construction)

Open Space: 1,750,000 (Alewife Restoration, Bare Root Nursery Expansion Fresh Pond, Magazine Beach Sunken Parking Lot Removal & Grassy Beach Creation, Rafferty Park Design, Raymond Street (Corcoran) Park Design & Partial Construction)

This order was adopted.

2. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$5,000 received as a donation from Stonyfield Farms, Inc. to the Grant Fund Public Works Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used toward the costs of natural turf management practices by the Department of Public Works at City parks and fields. *CMA 2021 #213*

This order was adopted on the consent agenda (no discussion).

3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$199,736.56 received from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Shared Streets and Spaces Program Grant, to the Grant Fund Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Extraordinary Expenditures account (\$199,736.56) which will be used to fund the installation of two new BlueBikes stations, as well as the installation of a new curb extension to create space for one of the new stations. *CMA 2021 #214*

This communication asks for the appropriation of Grant funds to assist with the cost of two new BlueBikes stations, one near Old Morse (Fulmore) Park in Cambridgeport and the other adjacent to Raymond Street (Corcoran) Park, as well as a curb cut at this location to accommodate this new station. While I am happy to see an increase in BlueBike ridership, we need to make sure we are listening to the neighborhood and communities who will be most impacted by the addition of a BlueBike station. Many thanks to Councillor Simmons for asking for a robust community outreach process before we move forward with the new station in Cambridgeport.

This order was adopted.

4. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to a request for approval to submit an amendment to the proposed Home Rule Petition for a special law regarding a fire cadet program for the City of Cambridge Fire Department. *CMA 2021 #215*

This communication edits the home rule petition language we sent to the State House in February of this year to create a Fire Cadet program. This program will look similar to the Police Cadet program which promotes an increase in hiring Cambridge residents of all backgrounds regardless of race or gender for the Cambridge Fire Department. Councillors Toomey, McGovern, Simmons, and I have been working on this for nearly two years now, so I am glad to see that this petition will now go directly to Representative Decker in the State House who is responsible for continuing to move this important program through the necessary steps to receive full approval by the State legislature and the Governor. The Cambridge FireFighters' union has been instrumental in supporting this monumental change.

This order was adopted.

## II. CALENDAR

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

#### CHARTER RIGHT

1. An application was received from Paulo Correia, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 851 Cambridge Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. No response has been received from the neighborhood association. **CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR TOOMEY IN COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 APP 2021 #40 ON THE TABLE**

At last week's City Council meeting, Councillor Toomey exercised his charter right on this curb cut application as there were some discrepancies on the application regarding

the width of the proposed curb cut. We received additional information from the Department of Public Works to clarify the width, but as the application needed to be edited to reflect the correct width, this application was placed on the table. We will review this application at a subsequent meeting.

This order was placed on the table.

2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-13, regarding next steps on implementation of Universal Pre-K. **PLACED ON THE TABLE IN COUNCIL MAY 17, 2021 CMA 2021 #123**

No action was taken.

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-41, regarding a report on closing Mass Ave from Prospect Street to Sidney Street on Friday and Saturday evenings. **CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN IN COUNCIL JUNE 28, 2021 TABLE IN COUNCIL AUGUST 2, 2021 CMA 2021 #176**

No action was taken.

4. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-56, regarding improvements to Jerry's Pond and along Rindge Avenue. **PLACED ON THE TABLE BY MAYOR SIDDIQUI IN COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 CMA 2021 #193**

No action was taken.

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

5. That the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge be amended to allow the service of post-operative care for a dog (Ordinance #2021-16).

**REFERRED TO COMMITTEE IN COUNCIL JUNE 28, 2021**

**PASSED TO A SECOND READING IN COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

**TO BE ORDAINED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 POR 2021 #147**

No action was taken.

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**

### **V. POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST**

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department, the City Solicitor, and other appropriate City staff to compile a report detailing the efforts the City has made toward creating LGBTQ+-Friendly Housing over the past decade, to state what impediments had been identified in realizing this effort, and to outline recommendations for how the City may successfully create such housing within the next three years **Councillor Simmons POR 2021 #189**

This policy order requests the Community Development Department, the City Solicitor, and other staff to report back on the efforts made to create LGBTQ+ friendly housing for

senior citizens in Cambridge. Councillor Simmons has championed this effort for many years, citing the unique set of challenges LGBTQ seniors face when looking for housing.

This order was adopted.

2. That the Executive Assistant to the City Council confer with the Dedication Committee to consider a suitable dedication in honor of Marine Corps Lance Corporal Roger Michael Hurd, who was Killed in Action and awarded the Purple Heart for his service in the Vietnam War  
**Councillor Toomey POR 2021 #190**

This order was adopted.

3. That the Executive Assistant to the City Council confer with the Dedication Committee to consider the request from Kate Rubin for a bench dedication at Danehy Park in honor of John Haydon  
**Mayor Siddiqui POR 2021 #191**

This order was adopted.

4. That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to work with the Public Health Department and report back to the City Council on the milestones that will be used to determine when the indoor mask mandate will no longer be needed.  
**Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui POR 2021 #192**

This Policy Order asks the City Manager to work with the Public Health Department to determine metrics or target goals around lifting the current indoor mask mandate in an effort to provide transparency for Cambridge residents on how, and when this decision will be made. While voting to implement an indoor mask mandate in August, the School Committee stated they would reexamine the need for the mandate in January, however the City Manager and Public Health Department did not specify a timeframe to review this City-wide mandate, or what metrics they would be using to reexamine the need.

This order was adopted.

5. That section 11.202(b) of Article 11.000 of the Zoning Ordinance, regarding the linkage fee, be amended by substitution  
**Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Simmons, Councillor Carlone POR 2021 #193**

Linkage fees are a charge per square foot imposed on new commercial properties larger than 30,000 square feet. They are intended to offset the inevitable displacement of residents as new interested residents flock to the city when these offices, labs, and other spaces are built. The City's current linkage fee is \$20.10, but based on the most recent [Nexus](#) study (performed every three years) conducted in 2019, the report recommends that in order to collect the maximum funds needed to build the housing to offset displacement, the linkage fee should actually be \$33.34. This policy order asks that a housing committee hearing convene with City staff and other stakeholders to determine a new linkage fee.

This order was adopted.

6. Council Support of H.926 **Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui** *POR 2021 #194*

This order asks that the City Council go on record in support of [Order H.926](#), the Schoolchildren Pesticide Protection Act. The Act seeks to ban the use of harmful chemicals in and around school and childcare buildings.

This order was adopted.

7. That the City Council urges the US Congress to fulfill its obligation to prevent nuclear war, as outlined in the Back from the Brink campaign **Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Nolan** *POR 2021 #195*

This order was adopted.

8. That the City Council go on record in support of Darwin's UNITED **Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Zondervan, Councillor McGovern** *POR 2021 #196*

Darwin's Coffee Shop employees have undertaken an effort to unionize this week and this resolution was to go on record in support of that effort. It was noted at the meeting that Darwin's has chosen to voluntarily recognize Darwin's UNITED, so the Policy Order was amended to include that information. Additionally, Councillor Nolan proposed amending the language to include thanks to Darwin's for being an exemplary small business offering competitive wages and creating jobs in the Cambridge community for over 20 years. That amendment passed.

This order was adopted as amended.

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**

9. That the City Council schedule a hearing of the Ordinance Committee for the purposes of amending the Ordinance of the City of Cambridge

**Councillor Zondervan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor McGovern** *POR 2021 #197*

This order was adopted.

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**

### **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. The Transportation and Public Utilities Committee met on July 14, 2021 to discuss car storage policies in Cambridge.

This report contains minutes from the July 14th [Transportation and Public Utilities Committee](#) meeting that was held to find solutions regarding residential and commercial parking.

The report was accepted and placed on file.

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**

### **VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY OFFICERS**

1. A communication was received from City Clerk, Anthony I. Wilson, transmitting memorandums from City Solicitor, Nancy E. Glowa regarding Minor Correction to Ballot Question No. 3 Which Is to be Placed on the November 3, 2021 Ballot Pursuant to Calendar Item No. 3 of 6/28/21. **COF 2021 #81**

This communication contains an amendment to Ballot Question No. 3 which will be placed on the November 3, 2021 Ballot for constituents to vote on. Read the City Solicitor's full letter and summary of ballot questions [here](#).

2. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, communicating information from the School Committee. **COF 2021 #82**

This communication from Mayor Siddiqui contains information regarding the School Committee's development of a timeline for measurable goals for the 2021-2022 school year, disbursement of funds from the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund Three, and an update on hiring an Executive Secretary to the School Committee. Read her full letter [here](#).

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**