



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA • FEBRUARY 7, 2021

Regular Meeting

Sullivan Chamber 5:30 PM

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

I. CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to a COVID-19 update.

CMA 2022 #18

Testing Update: The City is still committed to offering robust testing options and reducing wait times. As a result, in anticipation of February Break testing surges, St. Paul AME Church's Christian Life Center at 85 Bishop Allen Drive will open as an additional Saturday Testing Site from 11am-3pm on the following days:

- February 12
- February 19
- February 26
- March 5

This site will be staffed and run by CIC Health, and will be appointment-only. To schedule an appointment at the CIC site, click [here](#).

Due to construction in the Cambridgeside Galleria, the third floor testing/vaccine clinic site has moved to the third level of the garage as of Thursday, February 3. The testing site is accessible both through the garage and through the mall by pressing G3 in the elevators. Parking will still be available in the lower levels of the garage and validation is still offered.

For a complete list of testing sites and days, click [here](#).

Vaccine Update: So far, 75% of Cambridge residents are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. 91% of Cambridge residents have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, which is higher than many large cities in the State, and these percentages continue to rise. Additionally, 44% of Cambridge residents have received their boosters. The Cambridgeside vaccine clinic will continue to run on Mondays and Thursdays in conjunction with the testing site. The Cambridge Department of Public Health is offering two additional vaccine clinics in North Cambridge and the Port – the two neighborhoods with higher case counts and lower vaccination rates.

Public Health Update: The 7-day (January 24-February 7) moving average in Cambridge is [43.8 confirmed cases per day](#) per 100,000 people and the test positivity rate currently sits at 3.2% for the two-week period ending on February 7. Cambridge remains in the “high risk” category,

although case counts and positivity rates are on a steep decline. Before Cambridge can consider moving from pandemic to endemic, the CPHD wants to see the city remain comfortably in the “low risk” category before removing any of the current safety measures such as indoor mask wearing. Masks remain tantamount to reducing the spread, and the CPHD advises mask-wearing indoors as much as possible with a warning about the efficacy of cloth masks. If you can, wear a filtering mask, or double up to increase your protection. KN95, KF94, and KF95 masks have been proven to be most effective at filtering particles. This week, KF94 masks and at-home rapid antigen tests are available for pickup in City Hall and various firehouses around the City. For a complete list of pickup locations, click [here](#). You can also order up to 4 tests per household for delivery through the USPS at covidtests.gov. Seniors who are unable to make it to a pickup site can call the Council on Aging for assistance. To help reduce the spread of COVID19, CPHD is launching Operation Chicken Soup, an initiative that will deliver testing kits, high quality masks, and other essential items to households that test positive. A question was asked about adding grocery delivery and it was noted that CEOC has been a great partner for this. CPHD is going to continue to work with them to coordinate delivery for positive households.

For all COVID related city data, click [here](#).

Reopening Update: The City Manager is happy to report that he has launched the Restaurant and Nightlife Relief Fund that will grant 12.5 million dollars in total to non-franchised small businesses around the City. \$10k grants are available and women and minority owned businesses will be prioritized for funding. The City Manager hopes these grants will provide some much-needed relief for our local restaurants and nightlife venues that are still suffering the effects of this pandemic. Ahead of February break, all CPS parents and staff will receive two rapid antigen at-home tests. They should test before February break begins, and again on Sunday, February 27 and report any necessary absences to the respective school by 12pm. It was decided that Sunday was the optimal day to test instead of Monday in an effort to give schools and parents as much time to plan for absences as possible.

This item was placed on file.

2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to approval requested for new appointments and reappointment to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission for a term of three years. Reappointment: Warner Santiago. New Appointments: Badriyyah Alsabah, Dr. Frank Arce, Kathleen Long and Olivia Sevey.
CMA 2022 #19

This appointment was approved. This item was placed on file.

II. CALENDAR

CHARTER RIGHT

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-93, regarding proposed amendments to the Municipal Code relative to recent charter changes. (Ordinance #2022-2)

**CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR NOLAN
IN COUNCIL JANUARY 31, 2022 CMA 2022 #10
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2022**

At the last Council meeting Councillor Nolan exercised her Charter Right on this item to allow more time for the City Manager to come back with more detailed information on the proposed amendments. Since the Municipal Code is changing as a result of voter actions in the November 2021 election, there are still many details to be decided such as review committees and such. The City Council is working closely with the City Solicitor to figure out the logistics of these amendments, so a motion was put forward to place this item on the table to allow for more time for discussion.

This item was placed on the table.

III. APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from David Randa representing Live Alive organic cafe, requesting permission for a non-illuminated double sided blade projecting sign at the premises numbered 22 John F. Kennedy Street. approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutter proof of mailing.

APP 2022 #3

This application was approved.

2. An application was received from Heather Dudko representing Citizens Bank, requesting permission for recovering 4 (four) awnings and installation of 2 (two) new awnings with a total quantity of 6 (six) awnings at the premises numbered 11 First Street. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and 1 (one) abutter response with proof of mailing on.

APP 2022 #4

This application was approved.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Young Kim, regarding Loading Zone.

COM 106 #2022

This communication was placed on file.

2. A communication was received from Young Kim, regarding response Loading Zone.
COM 107 #2022

This communication was placed on file.

3. A communication was received from Taylor DeWoody, regarding Support for Cambridge Green New Deal Ordinance.
COM 108 #2022

This communication was placed on file.

4. A communication was received from Patricia McGrath, regarding Mt. Vernon Plans.
COM 109 #2022

This communication was placed on file.

5. A communication was received from Jonathan Haar, regarding From a resident of Avon Hill about proposed modification of Mass. Ave Cambridge.
COM 110 #2022

This communication was placed on file.

6. A communication was received from Alan Fincke, regarding Fresh Pond Golf Course.
COM 111 #2022

This communication was placed on file

V. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Maria (Vieira) Moniz.
Councillor Toner
RES 2022 #27

This resolution was adopted.

2. Resolution on the death of Margaret (Kiely) Grogan.
Councillor Toner
RES 2022 #28

This resolution was adopted.

3. Resolution on the death of Paula Mullane.
Councillor Toner
RES 2022 #29

This resolution was adopted.

VI. POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST

1. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the appropriate City staff to determine the feasibility of establishing additional compensation for the City's essential employees in accordance with the considered State legislation framework.

Councillor Simmons, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Toner
POR 2022 #16

This policy order asks the City to look into a way to adequately compensate essential City employees as outlined in the State legislation framework due to the Coronavirus pandemic. At the onset of the pandemic, essential workers were given compensation in the form of a \$10/hour raise, but that additional hourly payment ended before the remote work period for non-essential employees came to an end. This policy order would help properly compensate the essential workers who could not work from home from March 2020 – December 2020 by crediting them with extra years toward their retirement.

This policy order was adopted.

2. That Article 10.000 of the Zoning Ordinances of the City of Cambridge be amended to insert a new section 10.600, titled "On-Site Fossil Fuel Infrastructure"

Councillor Nolan, Councillor Carlone
POR 2022 #17

This policy order is a follow-up to the December 12, 2021 [Fossil Fuel Special Permit Policy Order](#) and offers the amended language to the zoning ordinance in regards to creating a Fossil Fuel Special Permit.

Councillor Zondervan exercised his charter right on this item, halting all discussion and action on the matter until the next regular council meeting on February 28, 2022.

3. That the City Manager is requested to instruct the City Solicitor to provide a legal opinion on whether the City Council can delegate the authority of curb cut approvals to the Inspectional Services Department through the City Manager.

Councillor Azeem, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Toner, Councillor Simmons
POR 2022 #18

This policy order asks the Solicitor to report back to the Council on whether or not curb cut application approval can be delegated solely to the Inspectional Services Department. This delegation would not change any of the current steps to obtaining a curb cut, but would instead make approval from Inspectional Services the final step. By eliminating the need for Council approval, the process for obtaining a curb cut would be more streamlined and those who apply for

curb cuts would benefit from the truncated process. I wholly support making the application process easier for our residents, so I asked to be added to this policy order as a cosponsor.

I was unanimously added as a cosponsor.

This policy order was adopted as amended 8-1. Councillor Carlone voted no.

4. That section 6.36 entitled, Schedule of Parking and Loading Requirements, of Article 6.000, entitled OFF STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS AND NIGHTTIME CURFEW ON LARGE COMMERCIAL THROUGH TRUCKS, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge be amended

Councillor Azeem, Councillor Zondervan, Councillor McGovern
POR 2022 #19

We suspended the rules to bring policy order #9 forward with this policy order.

This policy order seeks to eliminate the minimum parking requirement in the City's zoning ordinance. Since many Cambridge residents do not own cars, parking minimums are a decreasing need. It would not affect current developments or parking minimums that are already in place, but would instead remove the need for future construction to require parking. Without a minimum parking requirement, the extra space on lots can be used for whatever purpose the residents or owners see fit.

Two amendments were offered to both policy orders:

Amendment PO#4

Councillor Azeem, Zondervan, McGovern

WHEREAS: Some residents in Cambridge drive and benefit from off-street parking spaces. Not every resident, however, drives a car, and so the City should not require, but still allow, homes to have off-street parking spaces; and

WHEREAS: Parking minimums can force homeowners and residential & commercial developers to accommodate space for more parking than they deem necessary, leading to higher project costs and a decrease in the number of units or amount of open space; **now therefore be it**

~~**WHEREAS:** The city should review its maximum parking requirement periodically to ensure they meet our transportation and environmental goals; now therefore be it~~

ORDERED: That section 6.36 entitled, Schedule of Parking and Loading Requirements, of Article 6.000, entitled OFF STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS AND NIGHTTIME CURFEW ON LARGE COMMERCIAL THROUGH TRUCKS, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge, be amended by substitution with the language attached

This amendment was adopted unanimously.

Councillor Simmons exercised her Charter Right on both policy orders, halting all discussion and action on them until the next regular council meeting on February 28, 2022.

5. That the City Manager is requested to report to the City Council on options for spending ARPA money on direct support for households and individuals facing eviction, housing instability, and/or homelessness.

Councillor Zondervan, Councillor McGovern, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Carlone
POR 2022 #20

This policy order asks the City Manager to report back options for spending American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds as direct funds to individuals facing eviction, housing instability, and/or homelessness. This policy order is a result of Councillor McGovern's recent report on Homelessness in the City, and the Solicitor reporting that ARPA funds are not subject to any anti-aid legislation, meaning that the City is able to disperse this money directly to individuals for assistance. We have seen throughout the pandemic from our partners at CEOC, Margaret Fuller House, Just A Start and Cambridge RISE that direct cash payments are one of the most effective ways to offer much-needed aid to those who need it most, so I am happy to see that this is an option that we are exploring. It was noted that there is an upcoming Finance Committee Meeting scheduled for the first week of March to begin fleshing out the details on ARPA spending.

This policy order was adopted.

6. That the City Council appoints City Councillors Denise Simmons and Paul Toner as members of the City Clerk preliminary screening committee to begin the application and interviewing process for the new City Clerk, and to report back to the full City Council, as required by law, for the public interviewing of recommended finalists for the City Clerk position

Mayor Siddiqui
POR 2022 #21

This policy order approves Councillors Simmons and Toner as members of the preliminary screening committee to begin the application and interviewing process for the new City Clerk. Our current City Clerk will be leaving his position in April of this year.

This policy order was adopted.

7. Amend Section 2.66 of the Municipal Code to add a new section titled "Article III Green Jobs."

Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Simmons, Mayor Siddiqui
POR 2022 #22

We suspended the rules to bring Policy Order #8 and Communications from Other Officers #4 forward with this policy order. This policy order proposes language for a new section of the Municipal Code titled "Article III Green Jobs." This new section would provide the framework for a Green Jobs initiative through the Economic Development Department. There was discussion about transparency and deep community engagement throughout this process, so I put forward a

motion to refer this policy order to the Health & Environment Committee in an effort to give residents a chance to speak on this matter at the next hearing rather than having this go straight to the Ordinance Committee where it would be voted on.

The motion to refer this item to the Health & Environment Committee passed 9-0.

This policy order was referred to the Health & Environment Committee.

8. Amendment to Article 22 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge entitled “SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT” to insert a new section.

Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Nolan

POR 2022 #23

This policy order offers language for the new section in Article 22 of the Zoning Ordinance: “Sustainable Design and Development.”

I put forward a motion to refer this policy order to the Health & Environment Committee for further discussion and community engagement. That motion failed 5-4. Councillors Azeem, Carlone, Nolan, Zondervan, and Mayor Siddiqui voted no.

This item was adopted and referred to the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Board 7-2. Councillors Simmons and Toner were marked present.

9. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct staff from the Community Development and Law Departments to examine the Zoning Ordinance and provide amendment language for consideration by the City Council to remove all other references to parking minimums, including in Articles 13.000, 14.000, 15.000, 16.000, 17.000, and 20.000

Councillor Azeem

POR 2022 #24

We suspended the rules to bring this policy order forward with Policy Order #4.

This policy order asks the Community Development and Law Departments to provide possible amendment language for all parts of the Zoning Ordinance that refer to parking minimums.

An amendment to this policy order was put forward by the lead motion maker, Councillor Azeem:

Amendment PO#9

Councillor Azeem, Zondervan, McGovern

WHEREAS: Some residents in Cambridge drive and benefit from off-street parking spaces. Not every resident, however, drives a car, and so the City should not require, but still allow, homes to have off-street parking spaces; and

WHEREAS: Parking minimums can force homeowners and residential & commercial developers to accommodate space for more parking than they deem necessary, leading to higher project costs and a decrease in the number of units or amount of open space; and

WHEREAS: The city should review its maximum parking requirement periodically to ensure they meet our transportation and environmental goals; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to direct staff from the Community Development and Law Departments to examine the Zoning Ordinance and provide amendment language for consideration by the City Council to remove all other references to parking minimums, including in Articles 13.000, 14.000, 15.000, 16.000, 17.000, and 20.000; and further be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to direct staff from the Community Development and Law Departments to examine the Zoning Ordinance and provide amendment language for commercial parking maximums to the Transportation & Public Utilities Committee

Councillor Simmons exercised her Charter Right on this policy order, halting all discussion and action on them until the next regular council meeting on February 28, 2022.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The Government Operations, Rules and Claims Committee met on January 26, 2022 for the purpose of reviewing next steps in the City Manager search process.

I submitted these minutes from the January 26 Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee to provide an update on the City Manager search process for those who were unable to attend. At the meeting we discussed the timeline for the search, focus groups, and began discussing the process for creating the screening committee.

This report was accepted and placed on file.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Anthony Wilson, City Clerk, transmitting an update regarding legislative activity.

COF 2022 #14

This communication was placed on file.

2. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting information from the School Committee.

COF 2022 #15

This [communication](#) from Mayor Siddiqui highlights information from the last School Committee meeting.

Cambridge has a new Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Victoria L. Greer is now the permanent superintendent of Cambridge Public Schools after the Committee voted to extend her contract through June 30, 2023.

As we continue to slowly move toward the endemic phase of COVID19, CPS is removing their “Test and Stay” policy for the unvaccinated close contacts as a result of an update from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Executive Office of Health & Human Services, and the Department of Public Health. Students and staff will instead receive rapid at-home tests and twice weekly surveillance testing will occur in school. For more information, read [here](#).

Following the December 2021 CRLS student-led walkout in support of sexual harassment/assault survivors, the School Committee has moved to amend the Health credit graduation requirement from five to fifteen credits (a second semester) in an effort to further educate students on consent, healthy relationships, and sexual harassment. This change will apply to all juniors beginning with the class of 2026.

This communication was placed on file.

3. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting information regarding the Fare Free Bus Pilot Working Group
COF 2022 #16

This communication announces the creation of a Fare Free Bus Pilot Working Group with Councillor Azeem as the Chair. This group will meet biweekly over the course of three months with the goal of providing recommendations by May 2022. You can watch the meetings through the open meeting portal, but there is no public comment.

This communication was placed on file.

4. A communication was received from Councillor Zondervan about Reintroducing the Green New Deal for Cambridge
COF 2022 #17

The rules were suspended to bring this communication forward with Policy Orders #7 and #8.

This communication was placed on file.

5. A communication was received from Councillors Nolan and Zondervan, transmitting a memorandum regarding BEUDO Amendments.
Councillor Nolan, Councillor Zondervan
COF 2022 #18

This communication explains additional amendments that were made to the BEUDO Amendments which are more in line with the City's aggressive climate goals.

This communication was placed on file.

6. A communication was received from Vice Mayor Mallon, transmitting a memorandum regarding updates on the City Manager search.

COF 2022 #19

This communication provides further updates to the City Manager search process and outlines the many ways residents can get involved in this process. The first is a [Resident Town Hall](#) on Wednesday, February 16 from 6pm – 8pm. Our executive search firm will be in attendance, giving residents the opportunity to engage directly with them as well as hear from others about what they want to see in the next City Manager. If you want to speak, you can sign up for public comment [here](#). Additionally, you can provide feedback on the [site](#) we've created in partnership with coUrbanize. So far nearly 300 people have provided feedback! Make sure to subscribe for updates so you can stay informed on the upcoming events.

This communication was placed on file.

VIII. LATE RESOLUTIONS

LATE RESOLUTION FOR SHAUNTOO COTTRELL

WHEREAS: The City Council was deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of Shauntoo Cottrell; and

WHEREAS: Shauntoo Cottrell was born in Cambridge on June 3, 1978 to William, Sr. and Mary Cottrell; and

WHEREAS: Shauntoo Cottrell attended the Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Elementary School, graduating from Cambridge Rindge & Latin High School in 1996, participating and excelling in many different sports such as football, baseball, and basketball, attending the Upward Bound program in Wellesley, and eventually studying graphic design in college; and

WHEREAS: Shauntoo Cottrell began his working life with the community development program Just-A-Start in Cambridge, MA before eventually finding his passion working as a bus operator for the MBTA; and

WHEREAS: Shauntoo Cottrell always taught himself how to excel in the latest technology, which he loved teaching his mother, he was known for his sarcastic humor (especially around his family), he enjoyed riding his motorcycle and being part of the Hard Knocks MC Club, he loved travelling and visiting different countries,

especially Hawaii, and he also had a passion for video games, participating in video game tournaments; and

WHEREAS: Shauntoo Cottrell was predeceased by his brother Antonio Britt-Cottrell and sister Michelle Britt-Cottrell, and in addition to his parents, Shauntoo Cottrell leaves behind his brothers William Cottrell, Jr., Kenneth Britt-Cottrell (June), and Surpaul Cottrell, his sister Sheila Cottrell, and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews, all of whom shall forever cherish his memory; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council formally go on record in expressing its deepest condolences to the family of Shauntoo Cottrell for their tremendous loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the family of Shauntoo Cottrell on behalf of the entire City Council.

This resolution was adopted.

LATE RESOLUTION For Raylene Penrose

WHEREAS: The City Council was deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of Raylene Penrose; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council formally go on record in expressing its deepest condolences to the family of Raylene Penrose for their tremendous loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the family of Raylene Penrose on behalf of the entire City Council.

This resolution was adopted.

LATE RESOLUTION For Pastor Warren F. Collins

WHEREAS: The City Council was deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of Pastor Warren F. Collins; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council formally go on record in expressing its deepest condolences to the family of Pastor Warren F. Collins for their tremendous loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the family of Pastor Warren F. Collins on behalf of the entire City Council.

This resolution was adopted.

LATE RESOLUTION FOR Reuben N Dottin Jr

WHEREAS: The City Council was deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of retired Cambridge Department Officer Reuben N Dottin Jr; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council formally go on record in expressing its deepest condolences to the family of Reuben N Dottin Jr for their tremendous loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the family of Reuben N Dottin Jr on behalf of the entire City Council.

This resolution was adopted.

LATE RESOLUTION Congratulating Richard Bock

RESOLVED: That the City Council formally go on record in congratulating Richard Bock for recently receiving the 1st Place Prize in the Chatham Creative Arts Center Photo Show for his photo entitled “Steel and Steam”; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Richard Bock on behalf of the entire City Council.

This resolution was adopted.

LATE RESOLUTION For Lisa Jarvis

WHEREAS: The City Council was deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of Lisa Jarvis; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council formally go on record in expressing its deepest condolences to the family of Lisa Jarvis for their tremendous loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the family of Lisa Jarvis on behalf of the entire City Council.

This resolution was adopted.