



# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA • MAY 23, 2022

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 #115***

Testing Update: To accommodate rising cases within the City, walk-in testing will continue to be available on Wednesdays from 2pm – 6pm at St. John the Evangelist Church at 2254 Massachusetts Ave. In addition, the St. Paul AME Christian Life Center at 85 Bishop Allen Drive will also become a testing/vaccine clinic site on Saturdays from 2pm – 4pm in June beginning Saturday, June 4th. Testing will still be available 7 days a week by appointment through CIC. To schedule an appointment at the CIC site, click [here](#).

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

Vaccine Update: So far, 77% of Cambridge residents are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. 93% 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, 49% of Cambridge residents have received their boosters. The CDC has recently approved boosters for children aged 5-11, and those will be available at vaccine clinics around the City. The Health Department's weekly appointment-only COVID19 vaccine clinic at the Windsor Street CHA will be extended through August 10th to help accommodate those who want to get initial vaccines or boosters. There was discussion about coordinating vaccine clinics with City-sponsored events, such as the Inman Eats & Crafts event this past weekend, the summer Jazz Fest, and more to give people an easily accessible opportunity to get vaccinated. To schedule an appointment, click [here](#).

Public Health Update: The 7-day (May 9 – May 23) moving average in Cambridge is [80.7 confirmed cases per day per 100,000](#) people and the test positivity rate currently sits at 7.36% for the two-week period ending on May 23. Cambridge is currently in the "high risk" category, due to an uptick in cases although there has been an 8% decrease in positive cases over the last week. While the City Manager and Director of Public Health are currently issuing a mask advisory, they are not reinstating a mask mandate at this time, but are meeting with health officials to determine the best mitigation practices to implement. Both the City Manager and Director of Public Health did assure the Council that if cases continue to rise rapidly, then it is possible the mandate can be reinstated.

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

This item was placed on file.

2. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$11,000,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Human Services Extraordinary Expenditures Account to support major capital improvements at the Danehy Park Complex.

***CMA 2022 #116***

This communication asks for the appropriation of \$11 million to create a 5,400 square foot, carbon neutral and fossil-fuel free facility on the New Street side of the Danehy Park Complex to primarily support the CRLS girls' athletic program. The project includes accessible outdoor restrooms, a City fiber cable for future City wifi access, parking lot repavement, and [more](#). Athletic staff and student-athletes at CRLS have long advocated for equal sports facilities, and this structure at Danehy is the first step to leveling the playing field for our female student-athletes. Since the project is still in the design phase, there are opportunities for improvement to the current proposal as they come up. There was discussion about why this project was not included in the Capital Budget. Assistant City Manager for Fiscal Affairs and Public Investments, David Kale, explained that the project was not included in the Capital Budget because the City wanted to be able to move forward with construction whenever the design was ready, and they knew the funds would be available in Free Cash. Additionally, the City was not ready to nail down one number for the project and wanted to make sure the right amount of funds would be allocated. Upon appropriation of this funding, construction can begin as soon as this summer.

This appropriation was approved.

3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the transfer of \$60,000 from the General Fund Traffic, Parking and Transportation Salary and Wages account to the General Fund Traffic, Parking and Transportation Travel and Training (Judgment and Damages) account to cover a workers compensation settlement.

***CMA 2022 #117***

This item was adopted on the consent agenda. No discussion took place.

## **II. CALENDAR**

### **CHARTER RIGHT**

1. That the City Manager is requested to allocate the remaining ARPA funding, in compliance with the Final Rule, across community-serving applicants.

**CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN  
IN COUNCIL MAY 16, 2022**

**POR 2022 #95  
ON THE TABLE**

The rules were suspended to bring Late Communication from Other Officers #1 forward with this item.

The motion maker submitted substitute amendment language to the original policy order that offers more specificity and narrows the scope of the funding from \$33 million to \$10.5 million and named specific organizations that would be receiving the funding:

WHEREAS: Cambridge has received more than \$88 million in ARPA funding, [of which](#) \$33 million [has yet](#) to be allocated; and

WHEREAS: The city has received a total of 65 inspiring community proposals from 41 distinct individuals and organizations totalling more than 188,000,000; and

WHEREAS: In addition to the community submissions, the council and city are considering other proposals and concepts including (but not limited to) fare free transit and priorities of the Climate Crisis Working Group; and

WHEREAS: All proposals must be carefully vetted to ensure consistency with the [Final Rule](#) issued by the Department of the Treasury, which took effect April 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS: Some of the community submissions including (but not limited to) Friends of Jerry's Pond, Friends of Magazine Beach, BARCC, and HEART will require funding beyond ARPA in order to achieve their mission, but would benefit greatly from partial funding from ARPA on the order of \$500,000 each; and

WHEREAS: Other community submissions like the Cambridge Community Center and Starlight Square hinge on substantial construction on city-owned property and would benefit from partial funding from ARPA to pay for feasibility studies and initial design work; and

WHEREAS: The \$20 million Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition proposal would lead to funding for many deserving nonprofits that didn't submit a separate proposal of their own, and should receive careful consideration in addition to the proposed funding in this policy order; and

WHEREAS: The council is strongly supportive of the multiple applicants who have proposed expanding the number of low-threshold housing stipends and related supportive services, but the details of how that would work would benefit from discussion in committee; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to allocate at least \$10,500,000 of the remaining ARPA funds across each of the following applicants: BARCC, Bay Cove, Cambridge Community Center, Cambridge Housing Authority, Cambridge/Somerville Health Care for the Homeless, DeNovo, Food For Free, Friends of Jerry's Pond, Green Cambridge, HEART, Homeowners Rehab, Inc., Joyful Destinations, Just A Start, Magazine Beach Partners, On The Rise, Popportunity Program, Starlight Square, and Transition House; and be it further

ORDERED: That the Chairs of the Human Services Committee and Housing Committee be and hereby are requested to hold a joint hearing on the topic of expanding the number of low-threshold housing stipends and supportive services, and to invite representatives of the relevant ARPA community submissions; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter as soon as possible.

There was discussion about possibly referring this policy order to the Finance Committee for further discussion.

The amendment to the policy order passed 6-3. Councillors Nolan, Simmons, and Toner voted no.

The amendment to refer this order to the Finance Committee passed unanimously.

2. Section 11.202(b) of Article 11.000 Special Regulations linkage fee., be amended by substitution. (Ordinance #2022-14)

**PLACED ON THE TABLE IN COUNCIL MAY 9, 2022**

**POR 2022 #84**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

This item was taken off the table by a unanimous vote.

This item was referred to the Housing and Ordinance Committees.

3. That Article 20.90- Alewife Overlay Districts 1-6 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance be amended to insert a new section entitled Section 20.94.3- Temporarily prohibited uses. (ORDINANCE #2022-1)

**PLACED ON THE TABLE IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022**

**TO BE ORDAINED ON OR AFTER MAY, 23 2022 POR 2022 #2**

Councillor Toner presented an amendment to this section that would replace “1-6” with “1-5,” which would exclude the [AOD-6](#) of the Alewife Overlay District and allow a project at 125 Cambridgepark Drive to move forward. There was discussion about the possible ripple effect of excluding parts of the district and noted that the entire area should move forward together.

The amendment succeeded by a vote of 5-4. Councillors Carlone, Nolan, Zondervan, and Mayor Siddiqui voted in the negative.

4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$14,600,000 to provide funds for the Municipal Facilities Improvement Plan.

**PASSED TO SECOND READING IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022**

**TO BE ADOPTED ON OR AFTER MAY 23, 2022 CMA 2022 #91**

This item will be passed with the larger City Budget on June 6th.

No action was taken.

5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$15,000,000 to provide funds for the design and construction of a multi-use paths Danehy/New Street Path, Linear Park and Grand Junction Path, which runs from Henry Street to Gore Street on both City, MIT and MassDot property. **PASSED**

**TO SECOND READING IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022**

**TO BE ADOPTED ON OR AFTER MAY 23, 2022 CMA 2022 #90**

This item will be passed with the larger City Budget on June 6th.

No action was taken.

6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,800,000 to provide funds for the replacement of existing gas boilers at the Morse and Cambridgeport schools.

**PASSED TO A SECOND READING IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022**

**TO BE ADOPTED ON OR AFTER MAY 23, 2022 CMA 2022 #87**

This item will be passed with the larger City Budget on June 6th.

No action was taken.

7. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$78,500,000 to provide funds for the construction of sewer separation, storm water management and combined sewer overflow reduction elimination improvements within the Port, Alewife and Central Square areas as well as the Sewer Capital Repairs Program and climate change preparedness efforts.

**PASSED TO SECOND READING IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022**

**TO BE ADOPTED ON OR AFTER MAY 23, 2022**

**CMA 2022 #89**

This item will be passed with the larger City Budget on June 6th.

No action was taken.

8. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$13,000,000 to provide funds for the reconstruction of various City streets, sidewalks and bike facilities.

**PASSED TO SECOND READING IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022**

**TO BE ADOPTED ON OR AFTER MAY 23, 2022**

**CMA 2022 #88**

This item will be passed with the larger City Budget on June 6th.

No action was taken.

9. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$37,000,000 to provide additional funds for the construction of improvements at the Fire Station Headquarters Building located at 491 Broadway.

**PASSED TO SECOND READING IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022**

**TO BE ADOPTED ON OR AFTER MAY 23, 2022 CMA 2022 #92**

This item will be passed with the larger City Budget on June 6th.

No action was taken.

### **III. APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

1. An application was received from Mary Finigan representing Brattle Square Florist, requesting permission for a projecting blade sign and a wall panel sign at the premises numbered 52 Brattle Street approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutter.

*APP 2022 #25*

This application was approved.

## V. RESOLUTIONS

1. Thank You to Anthony Wilson for his service

**Councillor Simmons**

*RES 2022 #122*

Clerk Anthony Wilson has been an exceptional guide to all of us on the Council during his tenure, most of which was during a confusing time with Covid. Through it all, he seamlessly helped the City transition to remote meetings, while maintaining diligent records and always providing a helping hand when things went off track. We will all miss him dearly, and I wish him the very best on his next endeavor.

The entire Council was added as cosponsors to this resolution.

This resolution was adopted as amended.

2. Congratulations on the Birth of Francis James Gutoski.

**Councillor Toner**

*RES 2022 #123*

This resolution was adopted.

3. Congratulations on the Retirement of Ellen Watson from the License Commission

**Councillor Toner**

*RES 2022 #124*

This resolution was adopted.

4. Resolution for 2022 Cambridge Jazz Festival

**Councillor Simmons**

*RES 2022 #125*

This resolution was adopted.

5. Congratulations to Alisa Amador

**Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Carlone, Vice Mayor Mallon**

*RES 2022 #126*

This resolution was adopted.

## VI. POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST

1. That the City Council delegate the drafting and finalization of the questions for the interview of the City Council finalists, scheduled for June 1st, 2022, to Randi Frank, LLC with assistance from the City's Personnel Director Sheila Keady Rawson and with input from individual Councillors by confidential submission of requested questions to Randi Frank for her consideration.

**Vice Mayor Mallon**

***POR 2022 #98***

The Initial Screening Committee, who was tasked with finding candidates for the City Manager position, has narrowed the search down to four finalists, Iram Farooq, Cheryl Watson Fisher, Yi-An Huang, and Norman Khumalo. This policy order asks for the ability to draft the final questions to be asked for the City Council interview on Wednesday, June 1 at 6 PM in the Sullivan Chamber. To read the finalists resumes and bios, click [here](#).

This policy order was adopted.

2. Policy Order re Implementing Recommendations from Working IDEAL Report

**Councillor Simmons**

***POR 2022 #99***

The rules were suspended to bring policy orders 2 and 4 forward together.

This policy order asks for the [Working IDEAL Report](#) recommendations to be reimplemented. The report sought to "...identify and implement innovative ideas on recruiting, hiring, developing, and promoting a diverse workforce" that more accurately reflects the people who live and work in Cambridge, which should be a core pillar for all hiring within the City. This policy order seeks an update from the City on these recommendations and how they have been or will be implemented throughout City departments.

This policy order was adopted.

3. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the appropriate City staff in determining the feasibility of establishing a new "Talent Officer" role for the City **Councillor**

**Simmons**

***POR 2022 #100***

This policy order asks for a "Talent Officer" role to recruit potential candidates for open roles within the City. This position would assist in the hiring process across departments and facilitate both internal and external professional development programs, as outlined in the [Working IDEAL Report](#). This new role would ensure the City's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion hiring and retention practices are not only strong, but also consistent.

This policy order was adopted.

4. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Director of the Personnel Department and other relevant City staff to establish a method of ensuring that anti-bias training is incorporated into the City's hiring process at all levels

**Councillor Simmons**

***POR 2022 #101***

The rules were suspended to bring this policy order forward with #2.

This policy order asks the City Manager and Director of Personnel to ensure that anti-bias hiring practices are codified by the City. The City Manager and City Clerk searches both used anti-bias practices to recruit potential candidates. While the School Department and the Department of Human Service Programs incorporate the practice into their hiring process, and this is a standard that should be used across the board in the City for all departments and positions.

This policy order was adopted.

5. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Director of the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department to limit the blocking off of Memorial Drive to vehicular traffic to Sundays

**Councillor Simmons**

***POR 2022 #102***

This policy order asks the City Manager to work with the Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department to limit the closure of Memorial Drive to Sundays only. The expansion of Riverbend Park was initiated during the height of the Covid19 pandemic, when fewer people were moving around the City in cars, and now that motor vehicle traffic is back at pre-pandemic levels, the closure of Memorial Drive on both Saturday and Sunday has created significant traffic in the surrounding neighborhood side streets. Many residents from the area spoke during public comment about the effect the closure has had on them and asked for a community process to determine the best next steps.

Councillor Toner exercised his charter right on this item, halting all discussion until the next Council meeting.

6. That the City Clerk send this policy order with a letter of support from the City Council strongly endorsing the establishment a Massachusetts Public Bank outlined in bill, Senate, No. 665 led by Senator Eldridge, and in bill, House, No. 1223 by Representatives Connolly and Elugardo

**Councillor Carlone**

***POR 2022 #103***

This policy order asks the City Clerk to forward a letter of support for establishing a Massachusetts Public Bank as outlined in [Senate Bill 665](#)/[House Bill 1223](#). There are many benefits to a state-run public bank such as: working in conjunction with other private banks, bridging the funding gap for women, and minority owned businesses, and expanding both the State and City's ability to fund capital projects that serve the general public including first-time

homebuyers, local grocery stores, childcare centers, schools, public services such as police, fire and health, public buildings, water facilities and waste management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, local roadways, bike paths, and pedestrian walkways, and more.

Councillor Nolan was added as a cosponsor to this order.

This policy order was adopted as amended.

7. That the City Manager report back to the City Council on how this issue can be resolved and when it can be expected that the City will be able to outfit our Parks and fields as has been done in the past

**Councillor McGovern, Councillor Toner**  
***POR 2022 #104***

This policy order asks for porta-potties to be placed at City playing fields and parks, as has been done in previous years.

This policy order was adopted.

8. That the City Manager is requested to confer with all relevant City departments to draft a report for a future Transportation and Public Utilities Committee hearing on the impacts of the MBTA Bus Network Redesign.

**Councillor Azeem, Councillor Nolan**  
***POR 2022 #105***

This policy order asks the City Manager to work with the relevant departments to draft an analysis of the MBTA Bus Network Redesign, as there are some concerns for East Cambridge riders. This policy order was amended to include a community engagement process.

This policy order was adopted as amended.

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. The Government Operations, Rules and Claims committee met on April 12, 2022 to discuss new guidelines for Boards and Commissions appointments.

These minutes were accepted and placed on file.

2. The Health and Environment Committee met on April 26, 2022 to conduct a public hearing on a proposal to amend Section 2.66 of the Municipal Code to add a new section titled "Article III Green Jobs".

A. Amend Section 2.66 of the Municipal Code to add a new section titled "Article III Green Jobs."  
(Ordinance # 2022-6)

***POR 2022 #22***

**Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Simmons, Mayor Siddiqui**

This ordinance was referred to the Ordinance Committee.

The minutes were 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 #65***

This communication was placed on file.

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

***COF 2022 #66***

This communication was placed on file.

3. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting information about the City Manager finalists

***COF 2022 #67***

Four finalists have been chosen to move to the final step in the City Manager Search. You can read more about the finalists [here](#). On Tuesday, May 31 from 6 – 9 PM in the CRLS Fitzgerald Theater, there will be a “Meet the Finalists” night where you can hear the candidate’s vision for the City and engage with them. If you have specific questions you want answered, you can submit them to the Executive Search team by emailing [Randi@RandiFrank.com](mailto:Randi@RandiFrank.com) by 12 noon on Thursday, May 26th. On Wednesday, June 1 at 6 PM, the City Council will interview the finalists before voting on the next City Manager during the regular City Council meeting on Monday, June 6th at 5:30 PM.

This communication was placed on file.