



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA • MAY 9, 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 Awaiting Report Item Number 21-18, regarding a report on working with BB&N school to provide a solution to cars idling, stalled traffic, and blocked driveways.

CMA 2022 #100

This item is in response to this [policy order](#) that was originally put forward in March asking the City Manager to work with BB&N school to reduce the amount of cars idling at the beginning and end of the school day. The Cambridge Police Department was happy to [report](#) that they will be placing officers at the lower and middle school campuses during drop-off and pick-up times to assist with the traffic flow as well as remind parents of the anti-idling law, and Traffic, Parking, & Transportation is providing “No Idling” signs to be posted in the area. In the future, BB&N plans to remodel their lower school campus to include an internal driveway that will also alleviate on-street traffic that blocks driveways, the road, and causes idling.

This item was placed on file.

2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-99, regarding GLX project funding.

CMA 2022 #101

This [item](#) is in response to this [policy order](#) that was filed last term asking the City Manager to draft a transit spending plan with the Director of Traffic, Parking, & Transportation, as well as initiate discussion with Divco West to reallocate the rebate to transit improvements in East Cambridge. The City will be receiving a \$5 million refund, but there is currently no spending plan for the incoming rebate. There was discussion about developing a spending plan for this money in the future, and it was determined that there is currently no plan to do so, as this rebate will go directly to Free Cash. The original policy order asks that the City Manager and staff come up with a transportation spending plan to address transportation needs in Cambridge including fare free pilots and other transportation needs. This report was not what was asked for in the original policy order put forward last term and co-sponsored by every member of the City Council. There was discussion of the next City Manager being able to address this \$5M.

This item was placed on file.

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 22-26, regarding a report on trash bin sizes.

CMA 2022 #102

This [item](#) is in response to this [policy order](#) asking the City Manager and Department of Public Works to determine ways to encourage residents to select the smallest size trash bin they need in an effort to continue to reduce waste within the City. To encourage more residents to consider the smaller trash carts, DPW will schedule a series of social media posts and updates in their newsletter about the new trash cart program and further promote recycling and composting. Since the initial postcard about new trash bins was sent out, over 1,200 households have asked for a smaller size trash bin. DPW Commissioner Owen O’Riordan wanted to be clear that the goal of the new trash carts is to minimize rodent access to food while ensuring trash carts are easy for DPW staff to pick up on trash days. It was also emphasized that households will not be fined for producing more waste than fits in their trash cart, but they should do their best to make sure any overflow trash is in a secure trash bin. Residents have until Tuesday, May 17th to select a different size trash bin. If you would like to see the different size trash carts available, they will be on display at the main library branch at 449 Broadway from 11am – 1pm on Saturday, May 14. In addition, the Council asked Commissioner O’Riordan if the bins could be left tied to the fence at the Main Library so residents can see the bins anytime, and he was happy to do so.

To change the size of your trash cart, click [here](#).

This item was placed on file.

4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$200,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures account to support the rollout of standardized trash bins and the collection and recycling of old trash bins.

CMA 2022 #103

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

5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$155,000.00 from Free Cash to the Department of Human Service Programs Capital account to purchase a 15 Passenger Van for DHSP’s Child and Youth Serving Programs.

CMA 2022 #104

Previously, the Department of Human Service Program purchased 15-passenger vans and paid to have them retro-fitted as hybrids. While researching replacement vehicles for the 2003 van in question, a new option to have the vehicle retro-fitted as a complete electric vehicle became available, which was not possible in the past. This allocation is to retro-fit the new van as an electric vehicle in an effort to abide by the City’s Green Fleet policy.

This appropriation was approved.

6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a grant from the Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) in the amount of \$7,601.29 to the Department of Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$3,200) and to the Department of Human Service Programs Travel and Training Account (\$4,401.29) which will support the Carey Men's Permanent Supported Housing Program operated by the Multi-Service Center.

CMA 2022 #105

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

7. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the transfer of \$7800 from the Department of Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account to the Department of Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance Account which will be used to contract for Recovery Coaching services and provide better support to the men in conjunction with the services provided by the Multi- Service Center staff.

CMA 2022 #106

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

8. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 22-16, regarding Alewife Overlay District Zoning Proposal Working Group and POR 2022 #84 contained in Committee Report Item Number 1 of May 2, 2022 regarding CDD's current workload.

CMA 2022 #107

This item is in response to this [policy order](#) adopted in March, and this [policy order](#) adopted at the May 2 meeting, which both ask the City Manager to direct the Community Development Department to immediately convene an Alewife Overlay District Zoning Proposal Working Group comprised of all stakeholders, and to report back to the City Council on the Community Development's current zoning workload in regard to how long it may take the CDD to move forward with the Alewife Zoning. The working group will begin meeting in June, and meet once monthly for six months. Their meetings will build on the 2019 Alewife District Plan, and develop what zoning needs must be met for the Alewife area. There was discussion about adding a member of the Alewife Study Group to this committee, and Assistant City Manager of Community Development Iram Farooq shared that the CDD would consult with the City Manager's office to see how to make that addition possible. To read the full report, click [here](#).

This item was placed on file.

9. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to updated information that was requested by the Ordinance Committee at its hearing on April 7, 2022, relative to the Alewife Overlay Districts Zoning Petition as well as a legal opinion from City Solicitor Nancy E. Glowa, regarding legal questions raised by the Ordinance Committee at the same April 7, 2022 hearing. ***CMA 2022 #108***

The rules were suspended to bring Calendar Item #9 forward with this item.

The amendment was adopted 9-0.

Since this ordinance cannot be voted on until May 23, 2022, this item was placed on file.

II. CALENDAR

CHARTER RIGHT

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$23,100,176 received from the U.S. Department of Treasury through the new Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) established by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), to the Grant Fund Finance Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used for a number of projects related to City Council priority areas particularly: homelessness and housing support, COVID testing, mental health services, job training, food insecurity, small business support, and infrastructure including items related to water, and broadband. **CHARTER EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022 CMA 2022 #98
UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was discussion about having open conversations with the community about spending possibilities for these ARPA funds so that the community can have ample input in this process. It was noted that the projects that have already been submitted are just possibilities, and still need to be vetted before funds can be allocated to them. There was also discussion about a possible delay of allocation if this item is placed on the table, which could stall many potential projects. The Council was assured that a robust community process would occur before any funds are disbursed.

A motion to table this item failed 1-8. Councillor Zondervan voted in the affirmative.

A motion to approve the appropriation passed 9-0.

2. 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**

No action was taken.

3. 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**

No action was taken.

4. 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**

No action was taken.

5. 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**

No action was taken.

6. 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**

No action was taken.

7. 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**

No action was taken.

8. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back on the feasibility of providing all Cambridge high school students with free Charlie Cards throughout the school year.

CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

IN COUNCIL APRIL 11, 2022

PLACED ON THE TABLE IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022 POR 2022 #64

The rules were suspended to bring this item off of the table for discussion.

There was discussion about expanding the policy order to include all high school students who reside in Cambridge, but do not attend CRLS in order to be more equitable. The proposed amended language reflects that discussion. The goal of the order is to ensure that students who may attend charter or private schools can receive a free Charlie Card and remove a possible burden to families.

The following amendment was put forward:

WHEREAS: On April 11, 2022, the City Council passed a policy order requesting that the City Manager “report back on the feasibility of providing all CRLS students free Charlie Cards throughout the school year” and

WHEREAS: Some high school students, who are Cambridge residents, do not attend CRLS, but attend charter schools or private schools, and the City Council seeks to ensure that all students in Cambridge, regardless of which school they attend, have access to a safe and reliable means of transportation to and from school; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the city Manager be and hereby is requested to report back on the feasibility of providing all high school students, who are residents of Cambridge, who attend a charter or private school, with free Charlie Cards throughout the school year.

The amendment was adopted. Another amendment to add the entire council as cosponsors was put forward. That amendment was adopted.

This policy order was adopted as amended.

9. 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)

PASSED TO SECOND READING IN COUNCIL MAY 2, 2022

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

The rules were suspended to bring this item forward with City Manager Agenda Item #9.

The following [amendment](#) was recommended during the April 7 Ordinance Committee meeting:

Ordered: Create a new Section 20.93.5 within Section 20.90, Alewife Overlay Districts 1-6, to read as follows:

20.93.5 Development Moratorium. For a period beginning from the date of enactment of this Section 20.93.5 and lasting until December 31, 2023, or until the time of enactment of an amendment to or deletion of this Section 20.93.5, whichever occurs sooner, no permits for the building, renovation, or enlargement of any structures to accommodate a new or enlarged Office or Laboratory Use as listed in Section 4.34 of this Zoning Ordinance shall be issued within the Alewife Overlay Districts 1-6. The purpose of such moratorium is to create and enact amended requirements for the Alewife Overlay Districts in consultation with residents of the Alewife Overlay Districts and surrounding neighborhoods, based on development plans and guidelines published by the City.

The amendment was adopted.

This item was placed on file.

III. APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from John Tucker representing Nuestra, LLC DBA Boston Garden, requesting permission for an awning at the premises numbered 200 Monsignor O'Brien Hwy. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutters proof of mailing has been provided.

APP 2022 #21

This application was approved.

IV. RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to Roberta Mattos on her retirement from the Cambridge Health Alliance.
Councillor Toner
RES 2022 #109

This resolution was adopted.

2. Congratulations to Maria-Alice Smolka on her retirement from The Cambridge Health Alliance.
Councillor Toner
RES 2022 #110

This resolution was adopted.

3. Congratulations to Cassandra Ling on being named the Executive Director of YWCA Cambridge.
Councillor Simmons
RES 2022 #111

This resolution was adopted.

4. Congratulations to Nikolas Bowie for receiving tenure at Harvard Law School.

Councillor Azeem

RES 2022 #112

This resolution was adopted.

V. POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST

1. That the City Manager is requested to work to provide evening and weekend hours in two of our youth centers this summer as a pilot program.

Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Azeem, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Simmons

POR 2022 #87

This policy order asks the City Manager to determine a way to create an evening and weekend hour pilot in two of our youth centers this summer in a continued effort to reduce the youth and young adult violence within our City during the summer. This idea was discussed during the most recent Safe Streets meeting, and is a direct result of community engagement. It has been proven that young people need safe places to be that provide unstructured time with their peers, but many of our youth do not have a place like this, especially in the summer. Our youth centers are currently not open in the late evening or on weekends, but there are many nonprofits in the area with the staff and programming to run an adequate program. The policy order asks for one of these nonprofits who already has a relationship with our City and young people to provide the staffing and programming, and for the City to simply supply the funding.

This policy order was adopted.

2. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to light City Hall up gold on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, 2022, to pay tribute to those who have died for our nation and remembering their service and devotion to this country.

Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern

POR 2022 #88

This policy order seeks to honor the soldiers who have sacrificed their lives for our nation by lighting City Hall up in gold on Monday, May 30th, Memorial Day. Cambridge is home to many veterans and active service members who have given more than we can ever thank them for, and it is our pleasure to honor them everyday, and especially on Memorial Day.

This policy order was adopted.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The Housing Committee met to conduct a public hearing on January 25, 2022 to receive updates from the Community Development Department, the Cambridge Housing Authority,

Homeowner's Rehab, Inc. and Just A Start on the work they are currently engaged in, and the continuing challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic upon their operations.

This report was accepted and placed on file.

2. The Housing Committee met March 16, 2022 to conduct a public hearing to continue discussions around potentially raising the linkage fee rates.

A. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Community Development depart to provide information to the City Council about how to add \$1.94 linkage fee to Housing Contribution Rate that is specifically targeted for job training.

POR 2022 #85

Councillor Simmons, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Carlone, Councillor McGovern

This policy order was adopted.

B. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to get information from the Community Development Department to include, but not be limited to, funding received through the linkage program, that those fees be reported out annually, and including future projections by year.

POR 2022 #86

Councillor Carlone, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Simmons, Councillor McGovern

This policy order was adopted.

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

POR 2022 #84

Councillor Simmons, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Carlone, Councillor McGovern

It was noted that this policy order must be referred to the Ordinance Committee first, and it was suggested to place this item on the table so as to avoid having these zoning meetings during the summer and risk expiration of ordinances without action.

This policy order was placed on the table.

VII. 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 #57

This communication was placed on file.

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

COF 2022 #58

This communication was placed on file.