

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a federal update including an update on relevant court cases. (CM26#1) [[text of report](#)]
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following members to the Police Review and Advisory Board. (CM26#2) [[text of report](#)]
3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following members to the Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission. (CM26#3) [[text of report](#)]
4. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the Final Landmark Designation Report for the Nathaniel Stickney House at 45 Mt. Auburn Street. (CM26#4) [[text of report](#)]
5. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$100,000, received from the Mass Broadband Institute to the Grant Fund Library Other Ordinary Maintenance account. Funds will be used to help support local digital navigators and provide devices to residents in need, including the distribution of up to 190 laptops and hotspots to qualifying residents in need; and supporting the work of digital navigators serving individuals at the Cambridge Public Library and Cambridge Public Schools. (CM26#5)

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City departments, including the Department of Transportation, to evaluate and install a series of speed humps along Fayerweather Street, with particular attention to the stretch between Walnut Street and Field Street. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Flaherty, Councillor McGovern (PO26#1)
2. That the City Manager is requested to direct the City Solicitor and the Community Development Department to review and report back to the Council on (i) legal parameters related to City funding and Tourism Destination Marketing District restrictions, and (ii) oversight and accountability related to the operation of the visitor information kiosk, and related governance expectations, including alignment with City priorities. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Flaherty (PO26#2)
3. That the City Manager is requested to conduct a comprehensive review of existing safety and security measures at Cambridge City Hall, which shall include an assessment of physical access controls, visitor screening practices, on-site security staffing and training, emergency response and evacuation protocols, and the use of security technologies such as surveillance systems and alarm

monitoring. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Flaherty (PO26#3)

4. That the City Council go on record acknowledging 2026 as the Centennial Celebration of Negro History Week, and recognizing its enduring contribution to the nation's understanding of itself. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Flaherty, Councillor McGovern (PO26#4)
5. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant departments to prepare for a Council discussion on best future uses for City-owned properties and the processes for redevelopment. Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Zusy (PO26#5)
6. That the regular City Council meeting scheduled for Mon, Feb 2, 2026 be a Roundtable/Working meeting to discuss the results of the 2025 Cambridge Resident Survey. Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Azeem (PO26#6)

CHARTER RIGHT

1. That the City Manager works with the Government Operations and Civic Unity Committee to hold hearings to discuss new ideas to honor and remember individuals (i.e. communal memorial garden, wall or path), criteria for eligibility, a committee structure with diverse representation of the city residents, and a means for recording and maintaining our current and future memorials. [Charter Right – Simmons, Dec 22, 2025] (PO25#172)
2. Restricting Eligibility for On-Street Resident Parking Permits in New Transit-Oriented Developments. [Charter Right – Simmons, Dec 22, 2025] (PO25#173)

ON THE TABLE

3. An Ordinance has been received from Interim City Clerk Paula M. Crane, relative to amend the Zoning Map and Articles 3.000, 17.000, and 19.000 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance as follows with the intent of establishing four new zoning districts for the Cambridge Street corridor. [Passed to 2nd Reading, Dec 8, 2025; Eligible to be Ordained Dec 22, 2025; Expires Jan 28, 2026] (ORD25#17) [[Revised](#)][[Published](#)]

Reference: Dec22, 2025 Manager's Agenda #7. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a revised Cambridge Street zoning petition. (CM25#311) [[CDD memo](#)] [[Revised Cambridge St Petition \(Markup\)](#)][[Revised Cambridge St Petition \(Clean\)](#)][[Revised Cambridge St Map](#)][[Revised Cambridge St Map Descriptions](#)][[Combined Mass Ave/Cambridge St. amendments \(Markup\)](#)][[Combined Mass Ave/Cambridge St. amendments \(Clean\)](#)]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Brian Lavelle, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 18 Thingvalla Avenue; 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. (AP26#1)
2. An application was received from Jason Parillo representing Eastern Edge, requesting permission for a two (2) projecting blade signs at the premises numbered 290 Cambridge Street. approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutters. (AP26#2)

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A. M. Kubilius, re: VOTE NO TO MASSIVE UPZONING.
2. Adelia Witt, re: Housing Comment.
3. Alejandro Paz, re: Support for multi-family housing.
4. Anatole Borisov, re: Vote YES to Up-Zoning Mass Ave and Cambridge Street.
5. Ann Sweeney, re: Opposition to Porter Development.
6. Anne and Rowan Sundaram, re: No to upzoning.
7. Annette LaMond & Joe Moore, re: Please Against Out-of-Scale Upzoning.
8. Barbara Appignani and Steve Blacklow, re: NO! To Upzoning!
9. Ben Wurgaft, re: opposing the upzoning.
10. Beth Gamse, re: We urge you to vote "NO" on proposed upzoning.
11. Brendan Hickey, re: Cambridge Street Upzoning.
12. Camilla Elvis, re: Rezone Corridors.
13. Carol Greenwood, re: Zoning agenda on Dec 22, 2025.
14. Carol Lynn Alpert, re: UPZONING - Who will buy these homes: Investors. Who will be displaced? Us.
15. Carole Stern, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
16. Carolyn Shipley, re: Vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
17. Zack Goldberg, re: Please vote NO on the 2 upzoning petitions.
18. Catalina Arboleda, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
19. Charles Teague, re: OPPOSE both upzoning amendments, let them expire.
20. Christine Tessier, re: Vote No on the upzoning petitions tonight- Dec 22.
21. Cy Britt, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
22. Young Kim, re: Follow-Up: Clarified Comparison of Agenda Packet and Final Action (Dec. 22, 2025).
23. Dan Phillips, re: In support of zoning petitions, and thanks for a productive two years.
24. Young Kim, re: Request to Vote No on the Mass Ave & Cambridge Street Corridor Zoning Petitions.
25. Dana Bullister, re: Support North Mass Ave and Cambridge Street zoning petitions.
26. Young Kim, re: City Agenda Package has major errors.
27. Daniel Mascoop, re: Pass Cambridge Street and Mass. Ave. Rezoning.
28. Danielle Jankowich, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
29. Willie Boag, re: Support for Mass Ave and Cambridge St Corridor Upzoning.
30. David Halperin, re: Support corridor upzonings.
31. William Luther, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
32. Dean Eckles, re: North Mass Ave and Cambridge St Plans.
33. Diana Meservey, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
34. DOROTHY GAYDOSH, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
35. Wendy Jacob, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
36. Earl K. Miller, re: Support for North Mass Ave and Cambridge Street zoning petitions.
37. Walter McDonald, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
38. Elena Stein, re: Support the zoning petitions.
39. Elissa Warner, re: Oppose new upcoming laws.
40. Elizabeth Greywolf, re: No to Up Zoning.
41. Vincent Lawrence Dixon, re: Rezoning Votes.
42. Elizabeth Van Ranst, re: Proposed Upzoning.
43. Ellen Baker, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
44. Emma Johnson, re: In favor of North Mass Ave zoning petition.
45. Ethan Frank, re: Support for restricting parking permits in transit zones.
46. Federico Muchnik, re: Letter to: Secretary Ed Augustus Jr. - Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities – RE: 21 Walden Square Road - Winn Development.
47. Gordon Moore, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
48. Hallie Trial, re: Support Mass Ave and Cambridge Street Zoning.
49. Hannah Goodwin, re: housing, equity, environment and climate concerns.
50. Hannah Larsen, re: Mass Ave & Cambridge St Zoning Changes.
51. Heather Hoffman, re: branding sign repeal petition.
52. Helen Abraham, re: Upzoning Council Considerations & Voting.
53. Helen Walker, re: No Mass Ave zoning petition text in today's agenda packet.
54. Helene Bank, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
55. Heli Meltsner, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
56. Ira Nichols-Barrer, re: supporting N Mass Ave and Cambridge St zoning.
57. Iuliu Balibanu, re: In support of Mass Ave and Cambridge Street upzoning.
58. Jack Silversin, re: Please vote no or postpone voting on Mass Ave up-zoning.
59. Jackie King, re: Upzoning Should Not Compete With Affordable Housing or Small Local Retail.
60. Jacob Quinn Shenker, re: Please pass upzoning POs.
61. Jacquelyn Smith, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
62. Jane Beal, re: Upzoning.
63. Janet Reckman, re: Mass Ave & Cambridge St zoning petitions.
64. Jean Spera, re: Cambridge St Upzoning VOTE.
65. Jenny Netzer, re: Support for Zoning Petitions.
66. Joan Krizack, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
67. John Trever, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
68. Jonathan Cohen, re: Support for N. Mass Ave and Cambridge St zoning.
69. Judith and Dorian Bowman, re: Upzoning proposal
70. Karen Falb, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.

71. Kate Donahue, re: Cambridge housing vote.
72. Kathleen Moore, re: Strong Support for Northern Mass Ave and Cambridge Street Zoning Petitions.
73. Keisha Greaves, re: Urgent Need for Dedicated, Accessible, Affordable Housing for the Disability Community in Cambridge.
74. Kelly, re: Air Quality Concern.
75. Kelly S, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
76. Kenny, re: In support the upzoning policy orders.pdf.
77. Lara Caralis, re: Comments for 12/22 Council Meeting RE: Upzoning for Cambridge Street - Inman area.
78. Larry Rosenberg, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
79. Lee Farris, re: Multifamily Upzoning Starts to Deliver Windfalls in Cambridge.
80. Lori Thomas, re: More height on Mass Ave - Cambridge St.
81. Louise Venden, re: Dec 22 City Council public comments.
82. Margaret Carroll, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
83. Marie Saccoccio, re: Cambridge Street Upzoning- A Tour of Cambridge Street and comments by Lou Bacci and Hugh Russell.
84. Marina (Goreau) Atlas, re: Please require demolition mitigation and all environmental impact assessments before passing further upzoning proposals to ensure safe housing and safe built environments.
85. Marjorie Hilton, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
86. Marlene Lundberg, re: Six reasons we don't want a Skyscraper HARDscape , re: ORD25#17.
87. Mary Jane Rupert, re: opposing upzoning petition.
88. Mary Ziegler, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
89. Max Kaplan, re: Support for upzoning!
90. McKelden Smith, re: up zoning vote tonight.
91. Merry White, re: And all who are interested in Cambridge's future.
92. Miah Ebels-Duggan, re: I support taller buildings on Mass and Cambridge!
93. Michael Siegell, re: Failure Notice.
94. Michelle Willey & Christopher Reilley, re: please vote NO on proposed upzoning.
95. Nancy Seidman, re: Comments on the Zoning agenda for Dec 22, 2025.
96. Nancy W. Carpenter, re: Upzoning Petitions affecting Mass Ave and Cambridge Street.
97. Nate Sharpe, re: Parking Permit Policy Creates Perverse Incentives Against Car-Free Living.
98. Nella LaRosa-Waters, re: Upzoning.
99. Nick Miller, re: Please vote "NO" tonight on the two upzoning petitions.
100. Nike Tirman, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
101. Nina M. Herrera, re: Upzoning, etc. clarification.
102. Noah Harper, re: Support for North Mass Ave and Cambridge Street Zoning Petitions.
103. Nonie Valentine, re: Let upzoning expire please.
104. Owen Barron, re: Pass the Mass Ave and Cambridge Street Zoning Petitions.
105. Pat McCarthy, re: Please vote no to the two upzoning proposals today.
106. Patrick Sullivan, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
107. Paul Breneman, re: Please delay a vote to approve the proposed upzoning proposals for Cambridge St. and Mass. Ave.
108. Paul Levenson, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
109. Paula Cortes, re: Porter Square zoning changes.
110. Paula Maute, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
111. Peggy and Maurie Fox-Warren, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
112. Peter Harris, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
113. Phillip Segó, re: Please carefully consider what upzoning will do to our city.
114. plf245, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
115. Raffi, re: North Mass Ave and Cambridge Street Zoning Petitions.
116. Rebecca and Weldon Pries, re: Please vote NO!
117. Robert C McCarthy, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
118. Rolf Erikson, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
119. Rosalind Michahelles, re: PLEASE VOTE NO today, Dec 22.
120. Russ Windman, re: opposition to two proposed upzoning petitions.
121. Ruth Ryals, re: Mass Avenue rezoning-heights.
122. Sarah Block, re: The North Mass Ave and Cambridge Street zoning petitions. Please vote yes for these!
123. Sharon Stichter, re: Please READ and vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
124. Stephanie Boyé, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
125. Susan Juretschke, re: Vote NO on upzoning petitions.
126. Susan Markowitz, re: Opposition to Upzoning petitions.
127. Susan Ringle, re: Unfinished Business #5 an #6.
128. Susan W. Paine, re: Dec 22 Council Meeting - New Upzoning Petitions.
129. Suzanne Blier, re: Each NEW demolition - is forcing people from their homes.
130. Suzanne Ogden, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
131. Tara R Greco, re: No to 2 upzoning proposals.
132. The Black Response Statement, re: CPD's Proposal re: crisis prevention protocols.
133. Thomas J. F. Goreau, re: Please reject uncontrolled upzoning that will flood Cambridge and prevent solar access.
134. Tim Russell, re: Letter re: Zoning Amendments: ORD25#16&17.
135. Nadia Mykolayevych, re: Please vote NO on the proposed upzoning.
136. Federico Muchnik, re: Petitioner Comments Letter to: Secretary Ed Augustus Jr. - Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities - RE: 21 Walden Square Road / Winn Development.
137. Heather Hoffman, re: Let the Cambridge Street zoning expire.
138. Cathy Hoffman, re: Cambridge Peace Commission. [\[reference\]](#)
139. Young Kim, re: Public Comment — Cambridge St Zoning Petition (Second Reading, Previously Tabled).

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Anne Smaglia. Councillor Nolan

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The **Government Operations, Rules, and Claims**

Committee held a public hearing on Thurs, Dec 4, 2025 to discuss the organizational changes to the Equity & Inclusion Department. [\[text of report\]](#)

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Paula Crane, Interim City Clerk, transmitting an update re: legislative activity. (COF26#1)
2. A communication was received from Interim City Clerk Paula M. Crane, transmitting a memorandum re: pending Awaiting Reports. (COF26#2) [\[text of report\]](#)
3. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting an announcement of Cambridge City Council Committee Appointments for the 2026-2027 term. (COF26#3) [\[text of report\]](#)
4. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting information from the School Committee. (COF26#4) [\[text of report\]](#)

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Jan 12

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Jan 26

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Feb 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Feb 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Feb 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Mar 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Mar 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Mar 16

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Mar 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Mar 30

5:30pm City Council Meeting

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Jan 12, 2026

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR FLAHERTY

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: Residents along Fayerweather Street, particularly near the intersections with Walnut Street and Field Street and adjacent to St. Peter's Field and New Park, have raised longstanding concerns about vehicles accelerating and traveling at excessive speeds along this narrow, residential roadway; and

WHEREAS: Fayerweather Street experiences conditions that heighten pedestrian risk, including parked vehicles on both sides of the street, limited sightlines at intersections, and frequent use by children, families, and elderly residents accessing nearby parks and neighborhood open spaces; and

WHEREAS: Residents have reported repeated near-miss incidents involving vehicles and pedestrians, particularly where vehicles turn off Walnut Street and accelerate along Fayerweather Street; and

WHEREAS: While Fayerweather Street has previously been converted to one-way traffic as a safety measure, concerns about speeding persist, suggesting that additional traffic-calming interventions are warranted; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City departments, including the Department of Transportation, to evaluate and install a series of speed humps along Fayerweather Street, with particular attention to the stretch between Walnut Street and Field Street; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter within 90 days.

O-2 Jan 12, 2026

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR FLAHERTY

WHEREAS: While the City of Cambridge is experiencing declining assessed values in its commercial properties, it is nonetheless committed to maintaining a stable and predictable residential tax base, and seeks to promote economic vitality across the city by increasing foot traffic that supports retailers, restaurants, entertainment venues, cultural organizations, and hotels; and

WHEREAS: It is agreed that public tax dollars must be deployed effectively and strategically; and

WHEREAS: On December 16, 2025, the Economic Development & University Relations Committee held a hearing to review the City's support for tourism promotion, including the operations and funding of the Cambridge Office of Tourism; and

WHEREAS: The Committee heard testimony expressing strong support for the Office of Tourism's role in promoting Cambridge, alongside concerns regarding coordination, transparency, governance, and the clarity of goals and performance measures; and

WHEREAS: The Committee also identified legal constraints related to the Tourism Destination Marketing District that limit changes to baseline City funding, while highlighting opportunities to improve collaboration, information-sharing, and alignment among City departments and commercial districts; and

WHEREAS: There was broad agreement among Councilors and stakeholders that improved structure, communication, and accountability (via such measures as implementing the creation of an annual public report from the Office of Tourism) are necessary to strengthen City-supported tourism promotion; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to immediately convene and staff a standing coordination group including the Cambridge Office of Tourism, relevant City departments, and representatives of the City's business associations to support regular communication, advance planning, and alignment of tourism promotion with neighborhood economic activity; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the City Solicitor and the Community Development Department to review and report back to the Council on (i) legal parameters related to City funding and Tourism Destination Marketing District restrictions, and (ii) oversight and accountability related to the operation of the visitor information kiosk, and related governance expectations, including alignment with City priorities; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council within six months on findings, progress made, challenges identified, and any recommended policy or budgetary actions.

O-3 Jan 12, 2026

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR FLAHERTY

WHEREAS: City Hall serves as the central civic space for governance, public participation, and the delivery of essential municipal services, and must remain accessible while ensuring the safety of all who work in or visit the building; and

WHEREAS: Municipal buildings across the United States have, at various times, been the sites of serious acts of violence directed at elected officials, municipal employees, and members of the public; and

WHEREAS: On November 27, 1978, San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk were assassinated inside San Francisco City Hall, demonstrating the grave risks that can arise within government facilities; and

WHEREAS: On July 23, 2003, New York City Council Member James Davis was fatally shot inside New York City Hall during a City Council session, highlighting vulnerabilities in legislative spaces designed for public access; and

WHEREAS: On February 7, 2008, a gunman opened fire during a public meeting inside the Kirkwood, Missouri City Hall council chamber, killing multiple municipal officials and a responding police officer; and

WHEREAS: On January 5, 2026, an individual forcibly entered Lawrence City Hall in Kansas, breached secured internal office space housing senior municipal leadership, and was fatally shot following an altercation with a trained and authorized city employee, resulting in the temporary closure of City Hall and disruption of municipal court operations; and

WHEREAS: These incidents illustrate that acts of violence and forced entry within municipal buildings are neither hypothetical nor unprecedented, and that unauthorized access to secured government spaces can rapidly escalate into life-threatening situations; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has a responsibility to safeguard City employees, elected officials, volunteers, and members of the public while maintaining transparency, openness, and meaningful civic engagement; and

WHEREAS: Many municipalities have responded to similar risks by implementing layered safety measures, including access controls, trained security personnel, emergency response protocols, and modernized security technology; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to conduct a comprehensive review of existing safety and security measures at Cambridge City Hall, which shall include an assessment of physical access controls, visitor screening practices,

on-site security staffing and training, emergency response and evacuation protocols, and the use of security technologies such as surveillance systems and alarm monitoring; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council with findings, recommended improvements, and a proposed implementation timeline for this enhanced safety plan no later than 90 days from now.

O-4 Jan 12, 2026

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR FLAHERTY

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: A century ago, in February 1926 – at a time when racial segregation, political disenfranchisement, and racial violence were legally sanctioned and socially entrenched – historian Carter G. Woodson established *Negro History Week* to promote the serious study and public recognition of Black history, culture, and achievement; and

WHEREAS: *Negro History Week* was founded during the height of the Jim Crow era, when the “separate but equal” doctrine governed American law, Black Americans were systematically excluded from civic participation, and white supremacist violence posed an ever-present threat to Black life and advancement; and

WHEREAS: The creation of *Negro History Week* represented a deliberate and principled assertion that Black history is inseparable from American history, and that the nation’s founding ideals could not be meaningfully celebrated or defended while large portions of its population were erased, marginalized, or denied basic rights; and

WHEREAS: *Negro History Week* laid essential groundwork for future civil rights advances and was later expanded into Black History Month, reinforcing the idea that historical understanding is not static, but must be actively cultivated and defended across generations; and

WHEREAS: As the nation marks its 250th anniversary amid ongoing social, political, and institutional challenges, it is especially critical to acknowledge both how far the country has come and how much of its progress has been the result of sustained struggle, organizing, and moral clarity – often in the face of profound resistance and repeated setbacks; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record acknowledging 2026 as the Centennial Celebration of *Negro History Week*, and recognizing its enduring contribution to the nation’s understanding of itself; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record urging that this centennial be recognized as a meaningful complement to the nation’s 250th anniversary, underscoring that the American experiment has been strengthened by those who have challenged exclusion, demanded accountability, and expanded the promise of democracy, and encouraging the City’s educational, cultural, and civic institutions, and the public at large, to engage in learning and reflection around this dual milestone as a necessary foundation for informed civic participation and democratic responsibility.

O-5 Jan 12, 2026
COUNCILLOR NOLAN
MAYOR SIDDIQUI
COUNCILLOR ZUSY

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has been considering best uses for all City-owned property, and has recently done work to reassess a large portfolio in the Central Square area as part of the [Central Square Lots Study](#), and the Council has supported a number of purchases of properties over the past decade with a goal of ensuring a comprehensive and collaborative approach to considering best use of all City-owned properties; and

WHEREAS: On September 26, 2016, the City Council approved the City Manager's recommended acquisition of [139 Bishop Allen Drive](#) (1-15 Vail Court), in order to "redevelop the property for the... uses of providing much needed affordable, senior and/or transitional housing;" and on June 12, 2017 the City Council voted to "[transfer a leasehold interest](#) in property to the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust for the construction of low- and moderate-income housing;" and litigation surrounding the acquisition of property has recently been resolved; and

WHEREAS: On December 21, 2020, the City Council approved the City Manager's recommended acquisition of [185 Larch Road](#) with the goal of using the parcel "for open space use or any other municipal uses or purposes" and the City Council passed [PO23#72](#) requesting a working group and community process to develop recommended uses for the City Council to consider; and

WHEREAS: On May 15, 2023 the City Council approved the City Manager's recommended acquisition of [333 Webster Avenue](#) to be used in the interim by the Department of Public Works and [in the future to be used](#) to "further the goals of Envision Cambridge in the long term, primarily for affordable housing and open space;" and indicated that "we expect to conduct a community process associated with the property with those goals in mind;" and

WHEREAS: On August 23, 2023 the City Council approved the City Manager's recommended acquisition of [41 Bellis Circle](#) (since renamed 135 Sherman Street) to be used for "general municipal uses, which may include municipal operations, stormwater management and/or affordable housing;" and a [recent community meeting](#) was held to discuss future use of the property; and

WHEREAS: Development in the Alewife Quadrangle by Healthpeak, dubbed as "Cambridge Point," regulated by the City Council approved [Alewife Overlay District - Quadrangle](#), is expected to continue in late 2026, has the possibility of resulting in large land conveyances to the City of Cambridge for public use to be identified in a PUD Special Permit (Art. 20.1100.5.1.2); and

WHEREAS: In addition to the above-referenced properties, the City has a portfolio of owned properties it leases out to tenants as well as properties it leases for use for City-uses, including the properties referenced in [CM22#231](#), some of which were addressed as part of the Central Square Lots Study; and

WHEREAS: The City Council has expressed a willingness and a desire to work through questions of use of public land with the City administration and in addition to the City-owned properties considered during the Central Square Lots Study, the use of other City-owned property should be considered in collaboration with the City Council and the community; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant departments to prepare for a Council discussion

on best future uses for City-owned properties and the processes for redevelopment; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council at the time of a Roundtable discussion on the topic.

O-6 Jan 12, 2026
MAYOR SIDDIQUI
VICE MAYOR AZEEM

ORDERED: That the regular City Council meeting scheduled for Mon, Feb 2, 2026 be a Roundtable/Working meeting to discuss the results of the 2025 Cambridge Resident Survey.