



City of Cambridge

RES 2026-01
FIRST IN COUNCIL
January 26, 2026

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: Donald Williams, born in 1953, has spent his life closely connected to the City of Cambridge and he was educated in the Cambridge Public Schools, including Blessed Sacrament School and Cambridge High and Latin School; and

WHEREAS: Donald is the devoted father of eight children and has spent decades deeply rooted in the people, streets, and stories of this city, with a particular love for Central Square, a place he has long called home; and

WHEREAS: Over the course of his working life, Donald held many jobs in Cambridge, most recently at the Mass Avenue Diner, where he was known not only for serving good food, but for filling the space with warmth, humor, and kind conversation, making customers feel seen, welcome, and cared for; and

WHEREAS: Donald has long been a familiar and trusted presence in Central Square, a natural connector and listener, whose engagement with neighbors reflected a genuine commitment to community and civic life; and

WHEREAS: As a political activist in his own right, Donald consistently demonstrated an interest in the well-being of the city and its people, believing deeply that local voices matter and that community is built through everyday relationships; and

WHEREAS: In recognition of his lifelong contributions, his love for Central Square, and the joy and humanity he has brought to so many, the City of Cambridge wishes to honor Donald Williams in a way that reflects both his spirit and his enduring connection to this place; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council formally go on record in wishing Donald Williams a swift and full recovery; and be it further

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

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paula M. Crane".

Paula M. Crane,
Interim City Clerk