

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on COVID-19.
2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to new appointments and reappointments to the LGBTQ+ Commission effective Feb 1, 2021.
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the supplemental appropriation of the FY20 Shannon Grant for \$10,231.68 received from the Metropolitan Mayors Coalition's Community Safety Initiative (CSI) through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) to the Grant Fund Police Department Salary and Wages account (\$10,231.68) which will fund hotspot patrols, Metro Gang Task Force participation, and the Focused Deterrence program, and the Regional Youth/Police Dialogue Session.
4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the FY21 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP Grant in the amount of \$45,250, received from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) to the Grant Fund Police Department Salaries and Wages account (\$41,506.00) and to the Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$3,744) which will be used to continue contracting with a civilian advocate to implement the Police Department's Trauma Informed approach to policing.
5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$5,717,250 from the Mitigation Stabilization Fund to the Public Investment Fund Department of Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures account. Funds were received from contributions to the East Cambridge Open Space Fund and will be used will be used to fund the design and construction of three new parks in the East Cambridge/Kendall Square area; Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. Park, Triangle Park and Binney Street Park.
6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the transfer of \$85,000 from the General Fund Employee Benefits (Insurance) Salary and Wages account to the General Fund Public Works Travel & Training (Judgment and Damages) account which will be used to cover medical bills and settlements for Public Works personnel injured in the course of their job.
7. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 19-142, regarding a report on determining the feasibility of expediting the demolition and rebuilding permitting process in the event of a natural disaster.
8. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 20-

63, which requested a review of the granting of an extension for the 605 Concord Avenue project.

9. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to a Planning Board recommendation to adopt with comments and suggested modifications, the Alewife Quadrangle Northwest Overlay District (Srinivasan, et al.) Zoning Petition.
10. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$3,174,389 from Free Cash to the Mitigation Revenue Stabilization Fund which will be used to fund specific future projects, which will require separate individual appropriations by the City Council.
11. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$115,300 received in donations received from MIT Real Estate, Museum of Science, and CambridgeSide to the Public Investment Fund Community Development Department Extraordinary Expenses account which will be used for costs associated with the BlueBikes bikeshare system.
12. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$452,600 from the Mitigation Revenue Stabilization Fund received from various sources to the Public Investment Fund Community Development Extraordinary Expenditures account which will be used for the purchase and expenses of Bluebikes bikeshare equipment.
13. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 20-56, regarding establishing a plan that will allow for greater outreach and technical assistance to women- and- minority-owned businesses and small businesses that have not yet received financial assistance to assess any future City funding. [[CDD report](#)]
14. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number Awaiting Report 19-75, regarding the feasibility of partnering with a local research institution to conduct a study that determines how many ridehail vehicles are on the roads during both on and off-peak times and their impacts on congestion and safety.
15. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 19-151, regarding the feasibility of making Porter Square and Massachusetts Avenue between Roseland Street and Beech Street a quick-build complete street with bus priority.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. That the City further investigate renting space from the New England school of English to house appropriate members of our unhoused community. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS IN COUNCIL JAN 11, 2021]

ON THE TABLE

2. Resolution on the death of William Leeds. [TABLED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS IN COUNCIL JAN 11, 2021. CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS IN COUNCIL JAN 4, 2021]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 18-108, regarding a report on offering early voting in City Council and School Committee Elections. [PENDING RESPONSE FROM LEGISLATURE]
4. The City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the City of Cambridge Law Department to review the above changes to the language of the Domestic Partnerships Ordinance and report back to the Council. [PASSED TO A SECOND READING IN COUNCIL JULY 27, 2020. TO BE ORDAINED ON OR AFTER SEPT 14, 2020]
5. A Zoning Petition has been received from Cambridge Redevelopment Authority regarding a Zoning Ordinance to reflect the proposed changes to the KSURP. [PASSED TO A SECOND READING IN COUNCIL JAN 11, 2021. TO BE ORDAINED ON OR AFTER JAN 25, 2021] [[Petition and Memo](#)] [[Draft Letter of Commitment](#)]
6. That Chapter 2.78, Article III, Section 2.78.150 of the Cambridge Municipal Code, entitled "Definitions for Article III" be amended. [PASSED TO A SECOND READING IN COUNCIL DEC 21, 2020. TO BE ORDAINED ON OR AFTER FEB 1, 2021]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. A Zoning Petition has been received from Carolyn Fuller - Ordinance #2021-2 Cambridge Missing Middle Housing Zoning Petition. [[Text of petition](#)] [[signatures](#)]

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Tom Evans, Cambridge Redevelopment Authority, submitting a [Letter of Commitment](#) to accompany the MXD Zoning Petition and Kendall Square Urban Redevelopment Plan submission.
2. A communication was received from Susan Ringler, 82 Kinnaird Street, regarding letting Zoom viewers see City officials.
3. A communication was received from Young Kim, 17 Norris Street, regarding requesting City to promulgate 40B Project Procedures.
4. A communication was received from Kavish Gandhi, regarding support for seeking non-congregate shelter for unhoused Cambridge community members.
5. A communication was received from Heather Hoffman, regarding financial analysis of proposed MXD upzoning.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to Kim Janey. Councillor Simmons

2. Congratulations to Vatsady Sivongxay. Councillor Zondervan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
3. Resolution on the death of Carol Correia. Councillor Toomey
4. That the Council recognizes and expresses gratitude to the women and men of First Church Cambridge Congregational UCC for their decades of service to our community. Councillor McGovern
5. That this City Council go on record extending its congratulations to Eric Lander on being appointed science advisor to President-elect Joe Biden and head of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Councillor McGovern, Councillor Simmons, Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Toomey
6. Kavita Trivedi Eagle Scouts Resolution. Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Simmons
7. Retirement of CCTV Executive Director, Susan Fleischmann. Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Simmons
8. Resolution on the death of Charlotte Charest. Councillor Toomey
9. Resolution re Black History Month 2021. Councillor Simmons, Mayor Siddiqui
10. Congratulations to Nora Bent. Councillor Simmons
11. Resolution on Dara Arons Speedy Recovery Resolution. Vice Mayor Mallon
12. Resolution on the death of Yvonne Dsouza. Councillor Simmons
13. Congratulations to Mike Firestone and Betsy Gwin on the birth of their son, Charles Edwin Firestone, on Wed, January 13th. Councillor McGovern
14. The Cambridge City Council, hereby assembled, urges Amazon to meet and confer with the Cambridge community, included, but not limited to, representatives of labor unions including the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 25. Councillor McGovern, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Simmons, Councillor Toomey
R-14 Feb 1, 2021
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
WHEREAS: COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the health, safety, and well-being of the residents of the City of Cambridge; and
WHEREAS: The preventative measures put in place to combat COVID-19 by state and local agencies to prevent the spread and curtail transmission of the coronavirus have had a devastating economic impact on local retail

establishments, and have changed the retail options for the residents in the City of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Existing retail and e-commerce delivery networks currently operate in the City of Cambridge and set community standards for every family with sustaining wages, benefits including but not limited to quality health insurance and secure retirement; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge's retail and e-commerce delivery options coexist in diverse neighborhoods, while adding value to the fabric of the community, including offering good careers for Cambridge residents to provide for their families; and

WHEREAS: Existing e-commerce delivery options have aptly served the residents of the City of Cambridge throughout the COVID-19 pandemic while maintaining the highest of standards for its' essential workforce; and

WHEREAS: Amazon, which does not conform to area standards for wages, benefits, and working conditions, has targeted the Cambridge area for expansion of its e-commerce operations; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: The Cambridge City Council, hereby assembled, urges Amazon to meet and confer with the Cambridge community, included, but not limited to, representatives of labor unions including the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 25, locally impacted neighborhood groups, local residents, and other interested parties to discuss how Amazon can expand delivery operations, warehouses, and fulfillment centers in a way that is beneficial to the City of Cambridge and its residents while guaranteeing sustainable growth for the City and helping to ensure that fair and equitable employment standards are maintained for all e-commerce delivery networks; and be it further

RESOLVED: Prior to any expansion into the City of Cambridge, Amazon commits to and presents sufficient evidence to the Cambridge City Council that its operations meet or exceed current Community Standards established by existing e-commerce delivery networks. This commitment would include that all delivery drivers will be direct employees of Amazon and not independent contractors. Amazon must commit that all of its delivery drivers will be competent, safe drivers, that Amazon and its delivery drivers will maintain the utmost professional conduct in their day to day operations in the neighborhoods of the City of Cambridge.

15. Thank You to Lisa Peterson. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Nolan

16. Resolution on the death of Jerry Ingersoll and Phyllis Watt Ingersoll. Councillor Nolan

17. Thank You to Elizabeth "Liza" Malenfant Paden. Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Toomey

18. Resolution on the death of Joseph A. "Chubba" Russell. Councillor Toomey

19. Resolution on the death of Conceicao Miguel. Councillor Toomey

ORDERS

1. Spending Disparity Study PO. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Toomey, Councillor Nolan

2. Policy Order re: Establishing an On-Site Vaccination Program. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern

3. Policy Order re: Documenting Affordable Housing CBO Developments. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Zondervan

4. Policy Order re: Covid-19 Protocols at Affordable Housing Worksites. Councillor Simmons

5. That the Mayor be and hereby is requested to schedule a virtual Roundtable/Working Meeting for members of the City Council and School Committee for Tues, Feb 9, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Henrietta Attles Meeting Room at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, 459 Broadway, begin discussions on a preliminary School Department budget for Fiscal Year 2022. Mayor Siddiqui

6. Policy Order re: Renaming Fairmont Avenue. Councillor Simmons

7. Vaccinating CPS Staff Plan PO. Vice Mayor Mallon

8. Supporting the School Committee. Councillor Nolan, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Toomey, Councillor Simmons

9. Eliminating Hostile Architecture. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui

10. That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to direct city staff to work with the City's state and federal partners in support of decriminalizing all Entheogenic Plants and plant-based compounds. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Zondervan, Councillor McGovern

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Health & Environment Committee met on Aug 11, 2020 meet to discuss the Net Zero Action Plan FY20 progress report and to receive a general update on the plan including the upcoming 5-year review process.

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Mayor, Sumbul Siddiqui, communicating information from the School Committee.

HEARING SCHEDULE (via Zoom and TV)

Mon, Feb 1

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Thurs, Feb 4

5:30pm The Ordinance Committee will meet to conduct a public hearing on the Green Roofs zoning petition. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Feb 10

5:30pm The Ordinance Committee will meet to conduct a public hearing on the Alewife zoning petition. (Sullivan Chamber)

Thurs, Feb 11

5:30pm The Ordinance Committee will meet to conduct a public hearing a petition to amend Article 8.000 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance. (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Feb 17

2:00pm The Neighborhood and Long Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebrations Committee and the Housing Committee will conduct a joint hearing to discuss the elimination of single and two-family only zoning and restrictions on the type of housing that can be built city-wide. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 1

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 5

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 12

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 26

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 3

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 10

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 17

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 24

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 7

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 14

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 21

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 28

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Feb 1, 2021

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

WHEREAS: During [the Nov 19th, 2020 Economic Development and University Relations Committee meeting](#), committee members discussed the possibility of conducting a spending disparity study on City purchasing; and

WHEREAS: A spending disparity study would determine if disparities exist in City purchasing for businesses owned by minorities, women, and other historically disadvantaged groups; and

WHEREAS: While the Purchasing Department recently began the process of creating a system to track how much spending is done with minority and women-owned businesses, this data was not previously captured, and a spending disparity study would provide clear, quantitative proof of any potential disparities occurring in City purchasing, enabling us to address any disparities in a data-driven way; and

WHEREAS: [Boston](#) is currently conducting its own spending disparity study, which has uncovered that [of the \\$664 million spent on contracts in 2018, just 1% went to minority and women-owned businesses](#); and

WHEREAS: Several other municipalities across the United States, including [San Diego](#), [Houston](#), and [Chicago](#), have completed or will complete spending disparity studies as well; and

WHEREAS: The Supplier Diversity Office, which is a part of the Commonwealth's Operational Services Division, could serve as a valuable partner in conducting this spending disparity study, as it offers municipalities support with data analytics assistance, determining how much money is spent with diverse businesses, and how their spending with diverse businesses compares to other municipalities; and

WHEREAS: With [a total budget of over \\$1 billion for Fiscal Year 2021](#), the City infuses a substantial amount of money into our local economy, and to truly achieve economic equity and close racial and gendered wealth gaps, we must ensure historically disadvantaged businesses are not being systemically prevented from accessing those funds; and

WHEREAS: Promoting equity in City purchasing is not a new concern, as the City Council adopted [a policy order](#) on Oct 29th, 2018, asking the City Manager and City staff to review the City's bidding process to improve access, outreach, and clarity for local businesses, many of whom are MWBEs, seeking to contract with the City, and conducting a spending disparity study could help guide those improvement efforts; and

WHEREAS: As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to devastate our local small businesses, especially minority-owned businesses, it is crucial and timely that we uncover and address any roadblocks that diverse businesses may encounter in contracting with the City; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Purchasing Department, the Supplier Diversity Office, and other relevant City departments to conduct a spending disparity study on City purchasing with businesses owned by minorities, women, veterans, disabled persons, LGBTQ+

individuals, and other historically disadvantaged groups; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely fashion.

O-2 Feb 1, 2021

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Public Health Department has spoken of its intention to reach out to underrepresented groups in Cambridge to ensure they are vaccinated in due order; and

WHEREAS: The Affordable Housing Providers of Cambridge have acknowledged a desire to assist the City with reaching out to their residents, particularly their senior residents, in establishing a firm plan of action to getting them vaccinated; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Public Health Department and the local affordable housing organizations to develop a vaccination plan to reach out to the City's senior population, as well as to the City's minority communities and other underrepresented communities, that will establish a framework for the orderly onsite vaccination of these groups; and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-3 Feb 1, 2021

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: During the course of the Housing Committee hearing that was held on Jan 12, 2021, representatives of the Cambridge Housing Authority, Home Owners Rehab, Inc., Just a Start, and the Community Development Department shared information about projects in various stages of development in order to provide Committee members a greater understanding of each organization's plans for their housing portfolios; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to have the appropriate City staff obtain written documentation from the Cambridge Housing Authority, Homeowners Rehab, Inc., Just a Start, and the Community Development Department updating the City Council on the locations, unit sizes, number of units, overall costs, populations served, and expected dates of completion for each of the projects they reported on during the Housing Committee hearing held on Jan 12, 2021; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council with this information in a timely manner.

O-4 Feb 1, 2021

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: A number of residents have reported concerns that construction personnel in affordable housing buildings undergoing renovations have not always been strictly adhering to the Covid-19 safety protocols established to keep contractors and residents safe; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to coordinate with the Public Health Department and the Inspectional Services Department to establish random check-ins and

assessments of public and private affordable housing sites currently undergoing renovations to ensure proper compliance with Covid-19 safety protocols, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-5 Feb 1, 2021

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

ORDERED: That the Mayor be and hereby is requested to schedule a virtual Roundtable/Working Meeting for members of the City Council and School Committee for Tues, Feb 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Henrietta Attles Meeting Room at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, 459 Broadway, begin discussions on a preliminary School Department budget for Fiscal Year 2022.

O-6 Feb 1, 2021

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: A number of residents who live on Fairmont Avenue have raised concerns that, with requests for deliveries from the likes of Amazon and other out-of-town businesses dramatically increased over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, a significant amount of deliveries have not made it to their intended destination due to the packages being instead delivered to the similarly named Fairmont Street; and

WHEREAS: While local food delivery services tend to understand the differences between these two streets, and tend to utilize drivers who are familiar with the distinction between Fairmont Avenue and the much lengthier Fairmont Street, too many businesses located outside of Cambridge have apparently been using these street names interchangeably, leading to far too many packages not reaching their intended destinations; and

WHEREAS: A growing chorus of voices from Fairmont Avenue residents have been urging that their street's name be changed so that it will no longer be confused with Fairmont Street, and deliveries to these residents will be more likely to arrive unimpeded; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the appropriate City personnel to determine what actions would need to be taken in order to rename Fairmont Avenue, to engage with residents of Fairmont Avenue to include their voices on any street re-naming process that may go forward, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-7 Feb 1, 2021

VICE MAYOR MALLON

WHEREAS: Governor Baker recently announced that [the Commonwealth will move into Phase 2 of its COVID vaccination plan on Feb 1st](#); and

WHEREAS: [Early education and K-12 workers](#) were recently pushed back to be part of the third priority group included in the Phase 2, meaning [they will have to wait longer than anticipated to be vaccinated](#); and

WHEREAS: With an expansion of in-person learning slated to begin on March 1st and concerns among Cambridge Public School (CPS) educators and staff over their personal health, ensuring these employees are vaccinated as soon as possible is paramount; and

WHEREAS: CPS educators and staff being vaccinated will also help restore families' confidence and trust in schools and in-person learning as being a safe option for their children, helping parents return to the workforce while ensuring their children can access high-quality in-person education; and

WHEREAS: Given the ensuing delays in education workers' vaccination, and the need for both staff members and scholars to feel safe in in-person classrooms, it is critical that the City remains proactive and has a plan in place to rapidly vaccinate CPS educators and staff in convenient locations with ready availability when the times comes; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Public Health Department recently vaccinated all Cambridge first responders, including firefighters, police officers, and EMTs in Operation Nightengale, making it easy for first responders to obtain a vaccine locally and a similar plan could be created to ensure timely delivery of vaccinations to CPS staff; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Cambridge Public Health Department, the School Department, and other relevant City departments to develop a comprehensive plan to vaccinate CPS educators and staff, similar to Operation Nightengale for first responders; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council on this matter by the Feb 22nd general meeting.

O-8 Feb 1, 2021

COUNCILLOR NOLAN
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 pandemic, and the remote learning that followed, has taken a toll on the mental health and well-being of many students; and

WHEREAS: There is now extensive evidence available on the harm done by complete school closures and remote learning, and the adverse impact on low-income students and vulnerable populations, including students with disabilities and special education needs, will negatively impact them for years to come; and

WHEREAS: The School Committee's decision to move forward with the reopening plan in light of this evidence was a difficult decision, but one that will help our students recover from a year of remote learning; and

WHEREAS: The City Council appropriated millions of dollars in funding for additional [safety measures](#) to protect students and staff in our schools, many of which are not available in districts across the state and country that are offering in-person learning, including voluntary, free, biweekly individual COVID testing for all in-person staff; testing of symptomatic in-person students and staff; ventilation improvements; an abundance of PPE, including high-quality masks independently tested for filtration effectiveness; enhanced cleaning procedures; additional health aides; robust protocols, outlined in our Safety, Health, and Facilities manual; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record supporting the School Committee in their decision to reopen schools for in-person learning for all families who choose and their tireless work throughout the pandemic; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to send a copy of this resolution to the School Committee upon passage.

O-9 Feb 1, 2021

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: [Hostile architecture](#) is an urban design strategy that uses elements of the built environment to purposefully guide or restrict members of the unhoused community from sleeping or resting; and

WHEREAS: Examples of hostile architecture are found in nearly every park and public space in Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge should design and build public spaces in a way that is more consistent with our values as a city that is welcoming to all; and

WHEREAS: The City Council passed a [resolution](#) calling on the MBTA to remove newly installed bench bars from the Central and Harvard stations; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate departments and staff to not use and to remove hostile architecture whenever public spaces are designed or redesigned, including in the upcoming redesign of Carl Barron Plaza, and to create design guidelines that ensure our public spaces are truly welcoming to the entire community; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate departments and staff to prioritize the removal of existing hostile architecture as expediently as possible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the council as soon as possible.

O-10 Feb 1, 2021

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
MAYOR SIDDIQUI
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: Along with many cities and states across the country, Cambridge has begun in recent years to recognize that criminalizing users of substances such as cannabis is neither a just or effective legal approach; and

WHEREAS: Drug policy in the United States and the so-called "War on Drugs" has historically led to unnecessary penalization, arrest, and incarceration of vulnerable people, particularly people of color and of limited financial means, instead of prioritizing harm-reduction policies that treat drug abuse as an issue of public health; and

WHEREAS: Entheogenic plants, which include a spectrum of natural plants, fungi, and natural materials, have been used for centuries by people in different cultures to address conditions including substance abuse, addiction, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), elements of Persistent Traumatic Stress Environment (PTSE) conditions, chronic depression, end-of-life anxiety, grief, cluster headaches, and tendencies toward recidivism, as well as to improve mental and socio-emotional health; and

WHEREAS: The pandemic has led to a wave of heroin and opioid overdose deaths and depression in Massachusetts communities, two ailments that entheogenic plants have been shown to have particular strength in treating according to peer-reviewed medical research; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge City Council has adopted [goals](#) that include:

Goal 10: Ensure City's budget allocates resources responsibly and responsively.

Goal 11: Ensure Public Safety efforts reflect current and emerging challenges and opportunities in a way that incorporates Cambridge's core values; and

WHEREAS: Cities in the United States have long possessed an inferred constitutional right to regulate commerce and public safety within their jurisdictions, a principle acknowledged by the Cole Memorandum produced by the U.S. Department of Justice that permitted states and localities to deprioritize law enforcement of cannabis charges; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and is hereby requested to direct city staff to work with the City's state and federal partners in support of decriminalizing all Entheogenic Plants and plant-based compounds that are listed on the Federal Controlled Substances Schedule 1, Classes A-E of Chapter 94C § 31 of Massachusetts law and Schedules I-V of 21 U.S.C. § 812 of the Controlled Substances Act; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council calls upon the Middlesex County District Attorney to cease prosecution of persons involved in the use, possession, or distribution of entheogenic plants and the use or possession without the intent to distribute of any controlled substance; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby maintains that the use and possession of all controlled substances should be understood first and primarily as an issue of public health by city departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and all employees of the city; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby maintains that it should be the policy of the City of Cambridge that the arrest of adult persons for using or possessing controlled substances shall be amongst the lowest law enforcement priority for the City of Cambridge; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby maintains that no City of Cambridge department, agency, board, commission, officer or employee of the city should use city funds or resources to assist in the enforcement of laws imposing criminal penalties for the use and possession of entheogenic plants by adults; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby maintains it should be the policy of the City of Cambridge that the investigation and arrest of adult persons for planting, cultivating, purchasing, transporting, distributing, engaging in practices with, and/or possessing entheogenic plants listed in Classes A-E of Chapter 94C § 31 of Massachusetts law or Schedules I-V of 21 U.S.C. § 812 of the Controlled Substances Act shall be amongst the lowest law enforcement priority for the City of Cambridge; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council does not have the power and this resolution does not authorize or enable any of the following activities: commercial sales or manufacturing of entheogenic plants and fungi, possessing or distributing these materials on school grounds, driving under the influence of these materials; or public disturbance.