

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update regarding Federal funding. (CM25#27)
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a recommendation that in accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), the Cambridge City Council adopt an order for the Statement of Interest Form for the replacement of the Cambridgeport School building roof. (CM25#28) [[text of report](#)]
Agenda Item No. 2 Mar 3, 2025
WHEREAS: Having convened in an open meeting on February 4, 2025 prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Cambridge School Committee of Cambridge, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated no later than March 21, 2025 for the Cambridgeport School building located at 89 Elm Street which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future.
WHEREAS: The funds are sought to be used for the replacement of the building's roof; and
WHEREAS: The Elm Street building's roof is approximately forty-five years old, and has had multiple leaks repaired; and
WHEREAS: This project falls under priority category number 5, which is for the replacement, renovation, or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility, as determined in the judgment of the Authority; and
ORDERED: The Cambridge City Council hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.
3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update on Supplier Diversity. (CM25#29) [[text of report](#)]
4. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointment of **David Freilach**, **Rachel Dowley Alexander**, and **Chris Herlich** as members and the reappointment of **Kai Alexis Smith** as a member of the Public Art Commission for a term of three years. (CM25#30)
5. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-63

regarding recognizing and honoring the Massachusetts Tribe. (CM25#31) [[text of report](#)]

6. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to changes in the Clerk Department ordinance regarding a fee increase. (CM25#32) [[text of report](#)]

SUPPLEMENTAL CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

7. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a request to move to Executive Session to discuss the purchase of real property, off Cambridge/Concord Turnpike in Lincoln, Massachusetts, near the Hobbs Brook Reservoir. Discussing this matter in an open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the City. (CM25#32)

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to explore potential actions the City can take to mitigate the impact of Eversource price hikes. Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Toner (PO25#17)
2. That the City Council go on record reaffirming that Cambridge is a Sanctuary City not only for immigrants but also for all marginalized communities, including transgender and nonbinary individuals. Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler (PO25#18)
3. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to coordinate with the MBTA in finding ways in which to strengthen safety measures. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Azeem (PO25#19)
4. That the City Manager is requested to exert all appropriate influence on EZ Ride and Passio to take immediate and concrete steps to fully resolve tracking deficiencies and improve real-time transit accuracy for riders. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Siddiqui (PO25#20)
5. That the City Manager is requested to work with all appropriate Departments to develop language to create an "Affordable Rent Incentive Program" program for Cambridge and to report back to the City Council with option, including the percentage of possible tax abatements. Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Azeem, Mayor Simmons (PO25#21)
6. That the City Manager is requested to demand information from Eversource regarding concerns following the transformer explosion at 17 Edmunds Street on February 19, 2025. Councillor Toner, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Nolan (PO25#22)
7. That the City Manager is requested to commit to prioritizing snow removal from crosswalks and pedestrian islands for the rest of this and future snow seasons and direct appropriate City staff to generate a policy for prioritizing snow removal from crosswalks and pedestrian islands after snow storms. Councillor Toner, Councillor Wilson (PO25#23)

8. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Law Department to draft a home rule petition allowing Cambridge to end the practice of property owners passing on broker's fees to tenants. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Azeem, Vice Mayor McGovern (PO25#24)
9. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant staff to present a zoning petition to the City Council for consideration on maximum unit size. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Azeem, Vice Mayor McGovern (PO25#25)
10. That the City Council go on record in support of HD.2996/SD.1305 An Act to Regulate Junk Fees in Housing and HD.238/SD.35 An Act Eliminating Forced Broker's Fees. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Wilson (PO25#26)
11. That the City Council urges the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and MassHealth without delay to fully recognize BCaBAs for the purpose of reimbursement and implement a three-tier delivery model for ABA services. Vice Mayor McGovern, Mayor Simmons, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Wilson (PO25#27)
12. That the Cambridge City Council go on record supporting Teamsters Local 25 should they decide to take action, including extending picket lines to every Stop & Shop store in New England, and demanding that Ahold Delhaize and Stop & Shop return to the bargaining table in good faith. Councillor Wilson, Councillor Toner (PO25#28)
13. The City Manager is requested to work with relevant departments to create a plaque to be placed at the entrance of or inside City Hall that demonstrates the values that the Cambridge City Council upholds of the separation of church and state and gender equality. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Wilson (PO25#29)
14. (Late) Policy Order Re Canceling March 10 City Council Meeting.

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Lesley University requesting permission for 48 temporary banners along Massachusetts Avenue between Everett Street and Upland Street announcing Lesley University with Student Artwork from February 2025 through February 2026. (AP25#8)
2. An application was received from Russell House Tavern, requesting permission for a projecting sign at the premises numbered 14 JFK Street approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutter. (AP25#9)
3. An application was received from Brinn Sanders, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 177 Hancock Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. Response has been received from the neighborhood association. (AP25#10)

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Zach Durant-Emmons, re: Public Comment - Agenda Item # 4, Request for Naming of New Way - South Willow Way.
2. Lana Habash, re: requests by Cambridge PD for surveillance technology and equipment.
3. Abby Fechtman, re: No on city-owned broadband.
4. Adrea Lee, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
5. Agnes Criss, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
6. Agnes Voligny, re: Multi-family Housing Zoning Petitions (2/10/25).
7. Alex Wang, re: PO25#11.
8. Alexander Jablokow, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
9. Alexander Matheson, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
10. Alfred DIsidoro, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
11. Alison Field-Juma, re: Please let the Multifamily Upzoning petition run out.
12. Alka Agrawa, re: Municipal broadband.
13. Allan Sadun, re: Making Cambridge a city of opportunity (support for multifamily housing).
14. Alyssa Chen, re: Mistaken attribution of communication on Monday's agenda, please correct.
15. Amanda Beatty, re: I strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
16. Amanda Beiner, re: PO#13.
17. Amina Sheikh, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning (still!).
18. Amy Perlmutter, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
19. Amy Waltz, re: Please slow down & do this Right! Do not zone for changes we will All regret! Housing & Climate must be solved together! RE Zoning Change.
20. Andrea Dupree, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
21. Andrea Kadomiya, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
22. Andrea Simpson, re: Up-zoning proposal.
23. Andrew M. Solomon, re: Support for housing density.
24. Ann Fleck-Henderson, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
25. Ann Gantz, re: Municipal Broadband.
26. Ann Stewart, re: comment on citywide multifamily rezoning.
27. Annette Klein, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
28. Annette LaMond & Joe Moore, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
29. Annette LaMond, re: Please Vote No on Municipal Broadband.
30. Arthur Strang, re: Vote for PO#13 – Municipal Broadband.
31. Aseem Kulkarni, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
32. Asha Daniere, re: Amendment to section 5.40 has a problem!
33. Astrid Dodds, re: No to municipal broadband.
34. Audrey Bryant, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
35. Audrey Cunningham, re: Are any one of you affected by the upzoning.
36. Audrey Cunningham, re: Are any one of you affected by the upzoning.
37. Ausra Kubilius, re: Please VOTE NO on up-zoning petition.
38. Barbara Britt, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
39. Ben Tyler, re: Thank you for working towards citywide multi-family zoning.
40. Beth Gamse, re: Please vote "No" on Municipal Broadband Plan.
41. Beth Tolman, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
42. Bill McAvinney, re: Please pass the Multi Family Zoning Proposal Compromise today!
43. Bill Morse, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
44. Billie Jo Joy, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
45. Brendan Coffey, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
46. Bruno Carvalho and Michael Rozas, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
47. Cambria Russell, re: Linear Park Redesign.
48. Carlos Loya, re: Public Comment Form Submission Confirmation.
49. Caroline Lowenthal, re: Support for PO#1 and PO#4 for Monday.

50. Carolyn Magid, re: Supporting municipal broadband and PO#13.
51. Carolyn Shipley, re: MFH petitions Damage the Environment, kill Trees and cause isolation of residents.
52. Carolyn Shipley, re: No to ORD 2025-1 and 2025-2 -- DAMAGING UPZONING.
53. Casey Szilagy, re: Support for the Linear Park redesign.
54. Central Square Tenants, re: Plan with Schedule and Milestones for Municipal Broadband.
55. Chris Herlich, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
56. Chris Zurn, re: please SUPPORT reform to zoning.
57. Claire Silvers and Mark Feeney, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
58. Clara Wellons, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
59. Michael Asherman, re: complaints about Comcast.
60. Conleigh Byers, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
61. D. Biba, re: Let the current Multi-family Upzoning petition run out, more work needed!
62. Dan P. Keenan, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
63. Dan Phillips, re: In support of multifamily zoning.
64. Dana Niu, re: Please end exclusionary zoning.
65. Dana Tighe, re: Please vote NO on Municipal Broadband.
66. Daniel Mascoop, re: Pass the Multifamily Zoning Ordinance.
67. Dave Halperin, re: Support Multifamily zoning.
68. Dayal, Samir, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
69. Dean Eckles, re: Moving forward with liberalizing zoning.
70. Deborah Hulihan, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
71. Devora Najjar, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
72. Dexter Eames, re: Opposed to upzoning proposal and Support for Municipal Broadband Network.
73. Diana Paolitto, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
74. Diana Yousef-Martinek, re: Do not agree with the Municipal Broadband plan and Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
75. Diana Yousef, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
76. Diane Leone, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
77. Diane Reposa, re: Vote NO for Municipal Broadband.
78. Dien Ho, re: PO#1 and PO#4.
79. Donald Grossman, re: DODGE - Deputies of Destructive Government Excess - Time to Vote No against Up-Zoning.
80. Dorothea Rees, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
81. Peter Dunn, re: Upzoning - Please Let Current Plan Expire and Start Fresh!
82. E. A. & Julie S. Vargas, re: Please let the ill-advised upzoning proposal expire.
83. Adam Manacher, re: E-bikes.
84. Edward Loveall, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
85. Eli Lipsitz, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
86. Elise Moore, re: Vote NO on municipal broadband and Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
87. Elizabeth Cox, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
88. Elizabeth Gombosi, re: public comment Feb 10, 2025.
89. Ellen Aronson, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
90. Emily Axelrod, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
91. Emily Graham, re: Support of PO#1 and PO#4.
92. Emily Schatzow, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
93. Kathleen Moore, re: Ending exclusionary zoning!.
94. Esther Hanig, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
95. Ethan Frank, re: Supporting zoning and safe streets.
96. Florence Friedman, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
97. Frank LoGerfo, re: Broadband.
98. Frank Scibilia, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
99. Franziska Amacher, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
100. Fred Meyer, re: You really need to know the severe Hidden DANGERS inherent in your UNInformed UPZoning proposals!
101. Fred Scholz, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
102. Gaylen Morgan, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
103. Giacomo Lanzani, re: Writing in support of PO#1 and PO#4 to improve safety for children riding school buses, pedestrians, and cyclists.
104. Gillien Todd, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
105. Glenn Heinmiller, re: Please vote NO on municipal broadband.
106. Gordon Moore, re: the revised petition for Monday's vote.
107. Gordon Moore, re: Town Gown reports.
108. Greg Carey-Medlock, re: Ordain multi-family housing petition Parts 1 & 2.
109. Hallie Trial, re: Cambridge Graduate Students in Favor of Proposed Zoning Changes.
110. Hannan, re: Zoning discrepancy discovered.
111. Hans-Peter Biemann, re: 2/10 public comment #53, in fact delivered sometime after #70.
112. Helen Abraham, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
113. Helen Walker, re: Multifamily Housing Zoning, Important Loose Ends.
114. Helene Bank, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
115. Hillma, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
116. Hunter, re: In support of PO#1 and PO#4.
117. Ian McConnell, re: Vote NO on citywide upzoning petition – a 40 year Cambridge resident.
118. Iiisa Hurowitz, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition - urging you to table this discussion.
119. Ilya Sytchev, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
120. Judy Somberg, re: In favor of PO#13 - Support Municipal Broadband.
121. Ira Nichols-Barrer, re: support for multifamily housing.
122. Jack Zaleski, re: Policy Order PO25#11.
123. Jackson Moore-Otto, re: Comment in support of multifamily zoning.
124. Jacqueline Olds, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
125. James Bertram, re: Municipal Broadband.
126. Jana Odette, re: WHAT exactly are you doing And for WHOM?
127. Jane Williams, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
128. Janet Reckman, re: MFH zoning and municipal broadband.
129. Janet Stone, re: drones.
130. Jean Farrington, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
131. Jean Spera, re: Municipal Broadband.
132. Jeff and Pat Petrucelly, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
133. Jennifer Rochow, re: In support of municipal broadband.
134. Jenny Wang, re: Writing in support of PO#1 and PO#4 to improve safety for children riding school buses, pedestrians, and cyclists.
135. Jerome Ryan, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
136. Jerry Flannelly, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
137. Jessica Corbin, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
138. Jodie Siegel, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
139. Joe Connolly, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
140. John Holland, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
141. John LaFreniere, re: Here we are again.
142. John Pena, re: Please hold off on approving the upzoning ordinance - as written.
143. John Russell, re: PO #1 and PO#4.
144. John Whisnant, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
145. Joseph Antebi, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
146. Joseph Rose, re: PO25#11 at Monday's Meeting.
147. Joyce Devlin, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
148. Joyce E Myers, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
149. Jude Sirois, re: Municipal broadband.
150. Judith Rosen, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.

151. Judith Sandler, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
152. Judith Taylor, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
153. Judy Somberg, re: In favor of Policy Order #13 - Support Municipal Broadband.
154. Judy Townley, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
155. Karen Klein, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
156. Kathleen Moore, re: Ending exclusionary zoning!
157. Kathy Watkins, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
158. Karen Falb, re: Keep in Mind - the worms in the can.
159. Karen Klein, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
160. Kathleen Moore, re: Ending exclusionary zoning!
161. Kathy Watkins, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
162. Kelly Dolan, re: Concerns about the Multi family zoning petition and Finance Committee and Broadband.
163. Kelsey Harris, re: Housing & Internet.
164. Ken Zolot, re: Writing in support of Municipal Broadband PO#13.
165. Kennie Lyman, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
166. Keno Fischer, re: Comments in Support of PO#13 (Municipal Broadband).
167. Kerry Ann Lawlor, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
168. Kit Wu, re: Public Comment In Support of Multifamily Housing & Upzoning Cambridge.
169. Kitty Ascrizzi, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
170. Kris Ellis-Levy, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
171. Larry and Lynn Cetrulo, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
172. Lauren Luther, re: Multifamily housing zoning comment.
173. Laurence Lesser, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
174. Leah Nickel, re: Strong support for passing the multi-family housing petitions.
175. Leah Rand, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
176. Linda Moussouris, re: New Signs to be posted on Linear Park, Linear Park Redesign Open House on Thurs, Feb 13th at St. John's 5:30-7:00pm.
177. Lisa Glover, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
178. Lois Markham, re: Support for Municipal Broadband PO#13.
179. Louise T. Ambler, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
180. Lucia Mudd, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
181. Lyn Kardatzke, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
182. Lynne Miller, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
183. Lynne Reiss, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
184. Mai Kim Nguyen, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
185. Mal Malme and Meg Stone, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13.
186. Marcelo Marchetti, re: Municipal Broadband – please do not to move forward with this expensive project.
187. Margaret White, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
188. Marie Elena Saccoccio, re: Multifamily Re-Zoning Amendment - Largest Zoning Change in the History of Cambridge.
189. Marie Lossky, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
190. Marilee Meyer, re: Please consider amendments and neighborhoods.
191. Marion and Kathleen Reine, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
192. Marisa Fratini, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
193. Mark Goodman, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
194. Mark Konstrong, re: concerns about the direction of Cambridge.
195. Mary Ann Szporluk, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
196. Mary Power, re: NO on up-zoning as drafted.
197. Mary Sullivan Walsh, re: MFH Proposal.
198. Mary Ann Donofrio, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
199. Max Kaplan, re: Urging support of PO#1 and PO#4 to improve street safety.
200. mcusack, re: Municipal cable.
201. Michael Buck, re: Proposed Broadway parking loss.
202. Michael Kane, re: Allow more housing.
203. Michael Sipser, re: Vote NO on the upzoning petition.
204. Michael Weymouth, re: Supporting the 4+2 multifamily housing proposal.
205. Mike O'Brien, re: No Municipal Broadband!
206. Mike Phillips, re: Multifamily housing – The importance of Design Review (please bring it back at a reasonable threshold).
207. Momchil Tomov, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
208. Muireann Glenmullen, re: Upzoning proposal.
209. Nancy Steffens, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
210. Nate Sharpe, re: Writing in support of PO#1 and PO#4 to improve safety for children riding school buses, pedestrians, and cyclists.
211. Ned Codd, re: Support for Multifamily Housing Zoning Proposal.
212. Niels Peetz-Larsen, re: Opposition to rezoning petition.
213. Nike Tirman, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition - VOTE NO.
214. Niko Kotsatos, re: Writing in support of PO#1 and PO#4 to improve safety for children riding school buses, pedestrians, and cyclists.
215. Nita Sembrowich, re: PO#13 Municipal Broadband.
216. Noah Harper, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
217. Noah Spies, re: PO25#11.
218. Nolan Surma, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning and Enact citywide municipal broadband.
219. Norman Daoustin, re: support of PO#13 - Municipal Broadband.
220. Olive Malcolm, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
221. Omar Eton, re: urging delay in the zoning petition vote.
222. Pamela Van Dort & Matthew Connolly, re: Letter In Support of Safety Improvements on Cardinal Medeiros Avenue (PO25#11).
223. Central Square Tenants re:, Rabbi Yoni, Passionate Support for Ordaining Multi-Family Zoning Citywide with Inclusionary Housing.
224. Pat, re: NO to Municipal Broadman.
225. Patricia Bull, re: Upzoning Proposal.
226. Patricia McGrath, re: Municipal Broadband Project.
227. Paul E Fallon, re: Thank You!
228. Paul Levenson, re: PLEASE... vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
229. Paul Worster, re: Strong support for passing the multi-family housing petitions.
230. Perry Wasserbauer, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
231. Peter Dunn, re: Upzoning - Please Let Current Plan Expire and Start Fresh!
232. Peter Norris, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
233. Peter Sturges, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
234. Peter Zubiago, re: Support multi-family zoning.
235. Phil DarnowskyI, re: support residential upzoning.
236. Phyllis Simpkins, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
237. Reeva J. Meyer, re: Move Cambridge Ahead - Now.
238. Rena Leib, re: PO#13 – Municipal Broadband.
239. Rick Barry, re: Municipal Broadband.
240. Rob Everts, re: No to the Mis-named Multifamily Upzoning Petition.
241. Robin Greeley, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
242. Rosamund Judith Coquilllette, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
243. Roy Russell, re: Public Comment PO#13 Municipal Broadband.
244. Rusty Stieff, re: Failure Notice.
245. Saagar Popat, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
246. Sam Eldfors, re: A Critical Opportunity for Climate Leadership – Vote YES on Upzoning.
247. Samir Dayal, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
248. Samuel Berk, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
249. Sandra Spanier, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.

250. Sara Rostampour, re: Supporting PO#1 and PO#4.
- 251a. Sarah Block in strong support of PO#1 and PO#4.
- 251b. Sandra Spanier, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning & municipal broadband and in support of PO#1 and PO#4 to improve safety for children riding school buses, pedestrians, and cyclists.
252. Sarah Hungerford, re: Who Will Live In Cambridge and Where Going Forward.
253. Sarah Kaulfuss, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
254. Sarah Stone, re: a big YES on multi-family housing.
255. Scott Kilcoyne, re: Municipal Broadband PO#13 and Please support housing zoning changes!
256. Seymour Kellerman, re: Vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
257. Shannon Canavin, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
258. Sharon Sears, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
259. Shehime Arshad, re: No to municipal broadband.
260. Shelagh Hadley, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition and Stop the madness re: AHO.
261. Sheli Wortis, re: please support PO#13 - Municipal Broadband.
262. Shellburne Thurber, re: municipal broadband.
263. Shelley Rieman, re: Municipal broadband.
264. Shippen Page, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
265. Stephen, re: Strongly support ending exclusionary zoning.
266. Steve Fitzsimmons, re: Please allow the present AHO proposal to expire.
267. Stuart Gedal, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
268. Susan Lapidés, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
269. Susan Miller-Havens, re: Yes to Zoning proposal.
270. Susan Pitman Lowenthal, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
271. Susan Strang, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
272. Suzanne Bas Davis, re: PO#13 - municipal broadband.
273. Suzanne Blier, re: "On" times 5, ... Science, Costs, Postponing, Reconciling, and the Winner.
274. Ted Moore, re: Support of PO25#11 and PO25#14.
275. Thomas Lindsley, re: Please vote NO on citywide upzoning petition.
276. Tim Russell, re: Linear Park Redesign Request for Westley Street Gate Installation to Enhance Connectivity.
277. Vivek Sikri, re: In support of PO#1 and #4.
278. Waide Warner, re: Please Vote YES on Cambridge Municipal Broadband.
279. Wayne Welke, re: Still strongly supporting ending exclusionary zoning!
280. William Boomstein, re: Citywide upzoning petition - NO!
281. Young Kim, re: Multifamily Housing Petition.
282. Young Kim, re: My Oral comment tonight.
283. Zachary Yaro, re: Writing in support of PO#4 - advance protection of students and other bus riders.
284. Kristen Wainwright, re: Impacts of Cambridge Citywide Upzoning - 6 Part research document.
285. Hans-Peter Biemann, re: unit floor area constraints on new, bloated building.
286. Richard Freierman, re: PO24#153.
287. Andrew King, re: Please Include the People's Budget Priorities in the FY26 CPS Budget.
288. John Pitkin, re: Letter for City Council re: Transportation Policy.
289. Suzanne Blier, re: Impacts of Cambridge Citywide Upzoning - 6 Part research document.
290. Bernice Buresh, re: PSNA Meeting, Feb 20, 7-9pm.
291. Carol Lynn Alpert, re: CAMBRIDGE UP-ZONING ALREADY BACKFIRING.
292. Arthur MacEwan, re: Bicycle Safety and Helmets.
293. Camden Bauchner, re: Parking on Broadway.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the City Council go on record extending Congratulations to the NAACP Awardees 2025. Mayor Simmons
2. Condolences on the death of Eugene Goodwin. Councillor Toner
3. Congratulations to Philip Chu on his retirement from the Cambridge Police Department. Councillor Toner, Councillor Wilson
4. Congratulations to Frank Greenidge on his retirement from the Cambridge Police Department. Councillor Toner, Councillor Wilson
5. Congratulations to Paul Holder on his retirement from the Cambridge Health Alliance. Councillor Toner
6. Congratulations to Christopher Samuel on his retirement from the Cambridge Police Department. Councillor Toner, Councillor Wilson
7. Congratulations to Anthony Santiago on his retirement from the Cambridge Police Department. Councillor Toner, Councillor Wilson
8. Congratulations to Lovestruck Books on its Grand Opening in Cambridge. Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Wilson
9. Condolences on the death of Kevin Clark. Councillor Toner

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The **Health and Environment Committee** held a public hearing on February 11, 2025 to review and discuss the update to the Cambridge Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP) Annual Report. [\[text of report\]](#)

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, transmitting an update re: legislative activity. (COF25#36)

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Mar 3

10:00am **Special Meeting of the City Council** to go into Executive Session for reviewing and deliberating on the City Manager's contract, followed by deliberations and a vote on the City Manager's contract in Open Session.

2:00pm The **Public Safety Committee** will hold a public hearing to review and discuss the City Manager's Surveillance Technology Impact Report (STIR) related to allowing Remotely Piloted Aerial Vehicle (RPA) technology in Cambridge. (CM25#11)

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Tues, Mar 4

11:30am The **Housing Committee** and **Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebrations, Committee** will hold a joint public hearing to discuss zoning priorities focusing on major squares and corridors.

Wed, Mar 5

11:00am The **Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebrations Committee** will hold a public hearing to receive an update on the state of the arts in Cambridge and discuss how the City is currently supporting artists and art

organizations through grant programs and funding, with a focus on the Central Square Cultural district.

Mon, Mar 10

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Tues, Mar 11

3:00pm The **Economic Development and University Relations**

Committee will hold a public hearing with the City Solicitor and the Community Development Department, Economic Opportunity Division, to discuss concerns with vacant store front in Cambridge, and prior efforts and possible options such as new policies, taxes, and/or fines to reduce the number of vacant store fronts in Cambridge.

Mon, Mar 17

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Thurs, Mar 20

3:00pm The **Economic Development and University Relations**

Committee will hold a public meeting from 3:00pm-5:00pm. This meeting will be a Cannabis Roundtable with cannabis businesses to discuss issues facing the retail cannabis industry in Cambridge and discuss potential changes, including adjustments to the current 1,800 foot buffer zones and introduction of social consumption.

Mon, Mar 24

10:00am The **Economic Development and University Relations**

Committee will hold a public hearing to discuss all Workforce Development/Job Training programs provided for and/or funded by the City, School Department, and non-profits, and discuss a possible future "Jobs Trust" may do differently, or in addition to, current programming funded and/or operated by the City.

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Tues, Mar 25

3:00pm The **Health and Environment Committee** will hold a public hearing to review and discuss the update to the Zero Waste Master Plan (ZWMP) 2.0.

Thurs, Mar 27

1:00pm The **Finance Committee** will hold a public meeting to receive a status update on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in Cambridge, as well as to review and discuss the Police Department budget for FY26 before it is submitted to the City Manager, as required under Cambridge Municipal Code Chapter 2.74.040.

Mon, Mar 31

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Apr 7

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Apr 14

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Wed, Apr 16

3:00pm The **Finance Committee** will hold a public hearing to review and discuss capital and large-scale programs and projects currently underway and in the funding plan, and potential future programming and projects that would need to be planned and incorporated into medium- and long-term capital and operating budgets.

Mon, Apr 28

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, May 5

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, May 12

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, May 19

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, June 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, June 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, June 16

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, June 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, June 30

5:30pm City Council Meeting

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Mar 3, 2025

MAYOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: Last year, the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities approved natural gas rate increases for Eversource and National Grid customers, and the new rates took effect on November 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS: At that time, it was projected that approximately 500,000 Eversource customers would see their gas bills increase by 25-30 percent, meaning a typical \$250 bill could rise to \$325, placing a significant financial burden on households, especially during the winter heating season; and

WHEREAS: Numerous Cambridge residents have reported sudden and substantial increases in their Eversource gas bills, with some experiencing monthly hikes of over \$300; and

WHEREAS: These increases have been attributed to factors including surcharges for energy efficiency programs, costs associated with infrastructure upgrades, and expenses related to assistance programs for low-income residents; and

WHEREAS: The financial burden of these rising utility costs presents significant challenges for many residents, particularly those on fixed or limited incomes; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to engage with Eversource to evaluate the specific factors contributing to these rate increases, including surcharges for energy efficiency programs, infrastructure improvements, and low-income assistance program costs; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to explore potential actions the City can take to mitigate the impact of these rate hikes, including but not limited to:

- Advocating on behalf of Cambridge residents before the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities regarding future rate adjustments;
- Investigating alternative energy sources or suppliers to provide more affordable options for residents; and
- Developing or expanding local programs to assist residents facing financial hardship due to rising utility costs, including increased outreach on existing assistance programs such as HEAP; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council with findings and recommendations within 30 days.

O-2 Mar 3, 2025

MAYOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has been a proud Sanctuary City since the mid-1980s, declaring its commitment to protecting vulnerable communities from discrimination and ensuring that all residents, regardless of immigration status, are treated with dignity and respect, and are offered the same rights and protections as are granted to all other Cambridge residents; and

WHEREAS: The Trump administration has recently initiated attacks on the transgender community, attempting to deny their existence and history while threatening their rights and protections at the federal level, including through efforts to roll back antidiscrimination protections, limit access to gender-affirming healthcare, and undermine the dignity and safety of transgender individuals in public spaces nationwide; and

WHEREAS: The federal government's actions have encouraged discrimination towards transgender persons by state and local governments, schools, hospitals, and other public and private institutions; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is committed to being a city where all people, including transgender and nonbinary residents, can feel safe, affirmed, and able to live their lives without risk of discrimination or harm; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge has a long history of advocating for LGBTQ+ rights, and it is essential that the City takes action to reinforce and expand its commitment to the transgender community by explicitly including protections for transgender residents in its sanctuary city status; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council reaffirm that Cambridge is a Sanctuary City not only for immigrants but also for all marginalized communities, including transgender and nonbinary individuals; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record affirming that Cambridge as a Sanctuary City will not cooperate with federal or state policies aimed at harming transgender and gender diverse people, and will take active steps to ensure that transgender and gender diverse individuals have access to healthcare, housing, education, and employment without fear of discrimination; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record stating that it shall be the policy of the City of Cambridge that no City resources shall be utilized for cooperating with or providing information to any individual or out-of-state agency or department regarding the provision of gender-affirming healthcare or gender-affirming mental healthcare performed in Cambridge and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this resolution to the Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission, Cambridge Public Schools' Rainbow Clubs/Gender and Sexuality Alliances/Project 10, Cambridge Health Alliance, the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition, and other relevant community organizations to affirm the City's ongoing support for transgender rights and protections on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-3 Mar 3, 2025

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

WHEREAS: Public transportation is essential for countless Cambridge residents, particularly for the many seniors who rely upon MBTA buses for mobility and independence; and

WHEREAS: Some seniors have recently reached out to City Hall to report repeated incidents on the Route 78 bus at Harvard Square during the 3 pm hour, alleging that high school students utilizing the bus tend to crowd, shove, and harass elderly riders, sometimes necessitating police intervention; and

WHEREAS: Bus operators have attempted to address these disturbances, but the lack of enforcement and security presence has allowed them to persist, making many of these seniors feel unsafe, and the absence of MBTA security personnel reliably situated in the stations at Harvard has contributed to a growing sense of vulnerability among senior riders; and

WHEREAS: The City and the MBTA have an obligation to take measures to increase the safety that those utilizing the MBTA – especially seniors – rely upon so that they may access public transit safely and without harassment; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to coordinate with the MBTA in finding ways in which to strengthen safety measures, including:

- Increasing Transit Police and security presence on buses and at key transit hubs, especially during peak student travel hours;
- Deploying additional staff at bus terminals and train stations to deter disorderly behavior;
- Providing more training and support for bus operators to manage unruly passengers; and
- Establishing a formal reporting system for seniors to report safety concerns in real-time; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to communicate this policy order to the MBTA General Manager and relevant officials, urging swift action to improve safety for seniors and other vulnerable riders, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-4 Mar 3, 2025

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The EZ Ride shuttle service provides a critical transportation link for Cambridge residents, workers, and visitors, offering an essential connection between transit hubs, workplaces, and destinations throughout the city; and

WHEREAS: The reliability of EZ Ride's real-time bus tracking system is crucial for riders who depend on it to plan their commutes and daily travel efficiently; and

WHEREAS: The transition within the past year of EZ Ride's tracking platform to the Passio technology company has led to a degradation in the accuracy, consistency, and usability of its online bus location and estimated arrival time (ETA) tracking, creating significant confusion and inconvenience for riders; and

WHEREAS: Issues reported by users include inaccurate ETAs, buses appearing active when they are out of service, outdated schedule data lingering in the system, and fluctuating arrival predictions that undermine rider confidence in the service; and

WHEREAS: The unpredictability of the EZ Ride tracking system negatively impacts transit users, particularly those with rigid schedules, mobility challenges, or time-sensitive travel needs, and flies counter to the City's stated goals of finding ways to encourage greater use of public transportation options; and

WHEREAS: Passio has acknowledged internal configuration issues, operational tracking failures, and systemic ETA recalibration delays, yet despite repeated outreach and what appear to be the company's good faith efforts to address the issues, meaningful and lasting improvements to the tracking system have not been fully realized; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to exert all appropriate influence on EZ Ride and Passio to take immediate and concrete steps to fully resolve these tracking deficiencies and improve real-time transit accuracy for riders; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the specific steps taken by EZ Ride and Passio to address these concerns, including any commitments or system upgrades implemented to ensure a more reliable tracking experience for Cambridge transit users.

O-5 Mar 3, 2025
VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI
COUNCILLOR AZEEM
MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: Cambridge residents are living through the height of the housing crisis, with [49%](#) of Cambridge renters currently cost burdened and with many residents being pushed out of their neighborhoods or being a paycheck away from homelessness; and

WHEREAS: As of February 2025, the average rent in Cambridge, MA is [\\$3,273 per month, which is 110% higher](#) than the national average and with basic maintenance costs for property up-keep raising, property owners often turn to raising their rents leaving renters with increasingly limited options for affordable housing; and

WHEREAS: An affordable rent incentive abatement option passed with the [Massachusetts tax package at the end 2023](#) and the property tax exemption allows municipalities to adopt a local property tax exemption for affordable real estate that is rented by a person whose income is less than a certain income level set by the City or Town; and

WHEREAS: Eligible landlords in the City of Cambridge must have tenants with a household income of 80% AMI or less, provide year-round rental units, and must provide rent prices that do not exceed 30% of a household's total income, as determined "affordable" by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and

WHEREAS: In order to deliver more housing to renters at affordable rates, the City of Cambridge must enact policy that provides incentives and support for landlords who want to provide affordable housing opportunities, but are unable to afford doing so; and

WHEREAS: Utilizing this new exemption citywide will incentivize landlords to keep their rents below market rate and award good landlords who are already securing rents at accessible Area Median Income levels, allowing the City to develop more opportunities affordable housing opportunities for tenants; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with all appropriate Departments to develop language to create an "Affordable Rent Incentive Program" program for Cambridge and to report back to the City Council with option, including the percentage of possible tax abatements.

O-6 Mar 3, 2025
COUNCILLOR TONER
VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR NOLAN

WHEREAS: A transformer explosion occurred at 7 Edmunds Street on February 19, 2025, causing property damage to commercial and residential property; and

WHEREAS: These types of transformers are throughout the city; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager demands that Eversource provide the following:

- a thorough report on what happened at 7 Edmunds including cause of the "major catastrophic failure", the extent of damage and contamination
- plan and timing for remediation
- a report on the impact to the neighborhood safety and the grid as a whole
- the plan and timing for repair/upgrade to station
- plans for future safety considerations for the surrounding area/neighbors (i.e., build an explosion proof wall around this substation)
- safety and maintenance logs for this substation and transformer and all other substations and transformers throughout the city

O-7 Mar 3, 2025
COUNCILLOR TONER
COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: The City has made safety improvements to intersections, such as the redesigned Inman Square, which result in new public spaces and pedestrian islands; and

WHEREAS: The City has, and is continuing to, implement Safety Improvement Projects, as required by the Cycling Safety Ordinance, which result in pedestrian islands; and

WHEREAS: The City has committed to and has acquired specialized snow removal equipment to clear separated bicycle lanes throughout the city; and

WHEREAS: Current snow removal operations by the City can lead to blocking crosswalks and pedestrian islands, increasing difficulties for pedestrians; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge City Council unanimously adopted Vision Zero in 2015; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to commit to prioritizing snow removal from crosswalks and pedestrian islands for the rest of this and future snow seasons, and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct DPW and any appropriate staff to generate a policy for addressing these concerns in the future and to report back no later than April 28, 2025.

O-8 Mar 3, 2025
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI
COUNCILLOR AZEEM
VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: On February 25, 2025, the Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning Committee hosted a meeting on broker's fees to rent an apartment and other housing fees charged to tenants; and

WHEREAS: At that committee meeting, staff from Greater Boston Legal Services and City staff in the Law Department, Housing Department, and Housing Liaison Office presented on how they have seen the impact of those fees in their work, what regulations currently exist around broker and other housing fees, and proposed legislation to regulate the practices; and

WHEREAS: One of the recommendations from that meeting was that the City Council could submit a home rule petition in support of ending the practice of property owners passing on broker's fees to tenants, similar to home rule petitions the Cities of Somerville and Boston have submitted; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Law Department to draft a home rule petition allowing Cambridge to end the practice of property owners passing on broker's fees to tenants; and be it further

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

O-9 Mar 3, 2025

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: During discussion on the multifamily housing zoning petition, the City Council requested that an average maximum unit size of 2,000 square feet per lot area for new construction be put forward for consideration as an amendment to the petition; and

WHEREAS: Upon review by city staff, it was determined that this amendment could not have been added to the multifamily housing zoning petition without refiling it but that setting an average maximum unit size in new construction could be done as a separate petition; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant staff to present a zoning petition to the City Council for consideration on maximum unit size; and be it further

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

O-10 Mar 3, 2025

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: On February 25, 2025, the Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebrations Committee hosted a meeting on broker's fees to rent an apartment and other housing fees charged to tenants; and

WHEREAS: At that committee meeting staff from Greater Boston Legal Services and City staff in the Law Department, Housing Department, and the City Manager's Housing Liaison Office presented on how they have seen the impact of those fees in their work, what regulations currently exist around broker's fees and other housing fees, and proposed legislation to regulate the practices; and

WHEREAS: One of the recommendations from that meeting was that the City Council could submit a resolution in support of state bills to end the practice of property owners passing on brokers fees to tenants and regulating other housing fees charged to renters; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in support of HD.2996/SD.1305 *An Act to Regulate Junk Fees in Housing* and HD.238/SD.35 *An Act Eliminating Forced Broker's Fees*; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Cambridge's State House delegation on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-11 Mar 3, 2025

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: In United States today, 1 in 36 children are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); and

WHEREAS: The early years of life are critical for human development and strongly predictive of future educational attainment and quality of life and despite the proven benefits of early intervention for children with ASD, Massachusetts faces an acute shortage of Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs), key

providers of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) services, resulting in a persistent waitlist of 2,000-3,500 children ages 2-5; and

WHEREAS: While ASD can be diagnosed by a specialist as early as age 2, the average age of autism diagnosis in Massachusetts is 5.3 years, according to the National Autism Data Center, and long wait times put children with ASD at severe risk of failing to receive critical intervention during a narrowing and critical window of human neurological development; and

WHEREAS: Massachusetts operates under a two-tier ABA service delivery model rather than a three-tier delivery model, as used in states like California and Michigan; and

WHEREAS: Three-tier models expand the capacity of BCBA-led teams through Board Certified Assistant Applied Behavior Analysts (BCaBA) mid-level providers licensed by the Department of Public Health with supervisor authority; and

WHEREAS: Under a three-tier model, a single BCBA is able to oversee 10-16 clients with support from 1-2 BCaBAs, whereas under a two-tier model one BCBA is only able to oversee 6-10 clients; and

WHEREAS: The clinical competencies of BCBAs improve under the three-tier model as the structure offers a mid-level position in which clinicians can gain hands-on experience as BCaBAs shadowing BCBA clinicians; and

WHEREAS: Expanding ABA service capacity through a three-tier model does not increase per-child costs, as teams that include BCaBAs may operate at a lower reimbursement rate than those relying solely on BCBAs; and

WHEREAS: MassHealth has the authority to implement a three-tier model by establishing a rate of reimbursement for BCaBAs and fully implementing the regulatory framework established by the Department of Public Health governing licensed ABA providers; now therefore be it

ORDERED: The Cambridge City Council urges the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and MassHealth without delay to fully recognize BCaBAs for the purpose of reimbursement and implement a three-tier delivery model for ABA services; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Cambridge delegation at the State House, the Governor's Office, and Kate Walsh, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

O-12 Mar 3, 2025

COUNCILLOR WILSON

COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: Stop & Shop's 1.1 million square foot distribution center in Freetown, Massachusetts is a critical component of their supply chain in New England; and

WHEREAS: The facility sits on over 150 acres and delivers perishable and non-perishable goods to more than 200 Stop & Shop locations across Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS: Ahold Delhaize, the parent company of Stop & Shop, has made clear its intent to close the Freetown Distribution Center unless Teamsters Local 25 members accept drastic concessions on their healthcare - a benefit they have relied on for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS: This escalating crisis threatens the livelihoods of over 900 hardworking Massachusetts residents, and potentially the food security of our region; and

WHEREAS: Many of these workers have dedicated decades of service to this company, ensuring that New England families have access to fresh food and essential goods; and

WHEREAS: Ahold Delhaize and Stop & Shop have accepted millions in local tax breaks to build and operate the Freetown Facility, but are now prepared to walk away from it entirely; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the Cambridge City Council goes on record recognizing that Stop & Shop's decision to weaponize job loss in order to force workers into a substandard healthcare plan is not only unjust, but also a direct attack on the very communities they serve; and be it further

ORDERED: That the Cambridge City Council goes on record recognizing that this fight is not just about a single warehouse; it is about protecting good-paying union jobs, standing up to corporate exploitation, and ensuring that companies receiving tax incentives from Massachusetts do not turn their backs on our workers; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council extends its support to Teamsters Local 25 should they decide to take action, including extending picket lines to every Stop & Shop store in New England, and demands that Ahold Delhaize and Stop & Shop return to the bargaining table in good faith.

O-13 Mar 3, 2025

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has long been dedicated to and supports the separation of church and state, along with gender equality; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge City Hall recently finished a project to restore the building's grandeur, replace failing stone masonry and make repairs to the envelope of City Hall. A landmark structure, which was gifted to the City of Cambridge in 1889; and

WHEREAS: The project included restoration of the tower clock hands and faces and restoration of the balcony, which [bears an inscription](#) written by the donor, Frederick Hastings Rindge; and

WHEREAS: The balcony Inscription highlights that the word of God should dictate laws that govern the people, yet this wording contradicts a core value of the Cambridge City Council of inclusion, and a clear separation of church and state; and

WHEREAS: The balcony inscription includes language excluding women from government, with a statement that commandments to govern were given to "men" and it is the duty of "men" to create the laws; and

WHEREAS: The inscription refers to the general public as the "people," demonstrating the unequal ideology that policy making and enforcing is the sole authority of men due to the distinct separation between terms, while recognizing the role of all people in city life; and

WHEREAS: Given that the frontage of City Hall has media with the pride flag, trans flag, and Black Lives Matter, the inscription does not align with the messages presented by the City in these other elements of public display; and

WHEREAS: The historical preservation of the City is important, and the inscription is part of the historic structure; and

WHEREAS: The Historical Commission has been working to address these issues through an explanatory statement to be placed in the lobby of City Hall, and has not finalized a draft, and the Cambridge City Council requests that there be steps taken in a timely manner to address these issues surrounding both church and gender; now therefore be it

ORDERED: The City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant departments to create a plaque to be placed at the entrance of or inside City Hall that demonstrates the values that the Cambridge City Council upholds of the separation of church and state and gender equality; and be it further

ORDERED: The City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant departments to ensure that such a plaque is displayed in a manner that communicates how the City Council conducts its government in a fair unbiased manner; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council by April of 2025.