

## CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the Annual Surveillance Report concerning City Departments' use of Surveillance Technology or Surveillance Data. (CM24#28)
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a Surveillance Technology Impact Report which describes interim Operations & Case Management Software, requested by the Community Safety Department. (CM24#29)
3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to PO24#12 that the City Manager is requested to work with the Traffic & Parking Department to take immediate action and make safety improvements to the intersection of Cardinal Medeiros Ave, Binney St, and Bristol St. (CM24#30)
4. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$1,266,327 to the Grant Fund Fire Extraordinary Expenditures account. Funds will be used to purchase equipment to support the hazardous materials response team. (CM24#31)
5. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the final report from the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). (CM24#32) [[text of report](#)]
6. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the Central Square Lots Study Report. (CM24#33) [[text of report](#)]
7. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-4, regarding recommendations and legal opinions for adjusting transportation related fees and other considered changes based on the conversations in committee on Dec 6, 2023. (CM24#34) [[text of report](#)]
8. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a communication regarding the American Rescue Plan Act's ("ARPA") definition of "Obligation." (CM24#35) [[text of report](#)]
9. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-7, regarding a review of the Final Report of the Charter Review Committee. (CM24#36) [[text of report](#)]

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 2023 #8B Amend Chapter 14.04 – Fair Housing [Passed to 2nd Reading Oct 2, 2023; Amended Nov 6, 2023; to remain on Unfinished Business pending legislative approval of Special Act needed prior to ordination] (ORD23-8B)

## APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application from Dylan James, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 10 Hazel Street, Cambridge, MA; 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. (AP24#7)

## COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication from Aaron Shakow, The Gaza Working Group of the Cambridge Residents Alliance Executive Committee regarding Proposed rules change prohibiting debate on foreign policy issues.
2. A communication from Adam Lewandowicz regarding Complete the separated bike lane on schedule.
3. A communication from Alison and Duncan Sanders-Fleming regarding More money needed for trees in Cambridge.
4. A communication from Annie Michaelis regarding please budget more for trees in coming fiscal year!
5. A communication from Annie Spanel regarding Cambridge Tree Canopy Concerns.
6. A communication from Carolyn Magid regarding Supporting Agenda Item 5 (on municipally-funded vouchers)
7. A communication from Carolyn Shipley regarding Please Approve More Money for Trees
8. A communication from Catherine Hoffman regarding in-fill housing, foreign policy, and vouchers.
9. A communication from Dan Totten regarding the rules.
10. A communication from Daniel P. Anderson regarding GARDEN STREET 2/2024 - PLEASE TAKE ACTION.
11. A communication from Ellen Mei regarding Rules changes.
12. A communication from Eppa Rixey regarding Budget more \$\$\$ for trees!
13. A communication from Finley K Foster regarding In support of PO#5.
14. A communication from George Mouradian regarding Trees!
15. A communication from Gerald Bergman regarding Need to end military funding bring \$ home.
16. A communication from Jeb Mays regarding Budget more fund for trees.
17. A communication from Jo Solet regarding We need support for trees!
18. A communication from Judy Johnson regarding More Money For Trees.
19. A communication from Julie Ray regarding More money for trees and their care in budget.
20. A communication from Kavish Gandhi regarding CHJC supports Voucher PO #5 and Transfer Fee PO#6.
21. A communication from Lee Farris regarding Residents Alliance in support of PO#5 (city rental vouchers) and PO#6 (local option transfer fee)
22. A communication from Leslie Borden regarding Budget More \$\$\$ For Trees!!!
23. A communication from Madeleine Aster regarding Please budget more money for trees.
24. A communication from Margaret Ann Brady and Bob Dall regarding Policy order #24.

25. A communication from Margery Davies and Lowry Hemphill Cambridge Leadership Team, Cambridge Mothers Out Front regarding Funding for climate and environment measures.
26. A communication from Marty Bakal regarding Budget more dollars for trees.
27. A communication from Nancy E. Phillips regarding more \$\$ for trees!
28. A communication from Nike Tirman regarding GARDEN STREET 2/2024 - PLEASE TAKE ACTION.
29. A communication from Nonie Valentine regarding Serious funding for trees please.
30. A communication from Patrick Meyer regarding Support For The Cambridge Bicycle Network.
31. A communication from Patrick W. Barrett III regarding Transfer Fee (Against).
32. A communication from Paul Barringer regarding Budget more Funds for Trees.
33. A communication from Robert Cesari regarding I Support PO24#24.
34. A communication from Ruth Loetterle regarding Budget more \$\$\$ for trees!
35. A communication from Sarah Merin regarding Please fund the Urban Tree Plan.
36. A communication from Susan Adams regarding More money for trees.
37. A communication from Susan Juretschke regarding Budget more \$\$\$ for trees.
38. A communication from Suzanne Blier regarding Add My Voice to Patrick's - Re Transfer Fee (Against).
39. A communication from Young Kim regarding Policy Order For Adopting Lessons Learned from the Volpe Economic Impact Study Documents.
40. A communication from Adam Ried regarding Please budget more money for trees in Cambridge.
41. A communication from Young Kim regarding Mass Ave Partial Reconstruction.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to Susan Cohen on her Retirement. Councillor Toner
2. Congratulations to Carol Sidabras on her retirement from the City of Cambridge. Councillor Toner
3. Congratulations to Robert Carey on his retirement from the Department of Human Services. Councillor Toner
4. Condolences on the death of Paul Ryder. Councillor Toner
5. Resolution on the death of Mel Hodder. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Siddiqui

## ORDERS

1. That the Executive Assistant to the City Council confer with the Dedication Committee to consider a request for a dedication in a suitable location in honor of Paul Ryder. Councillor Toner (PO24#26)

2. That the City Manager is requested to dispatch the appropriate City personnel to assess the sidewalks in and around Carl Barron Plaza, paying particular attention to those areas that may be hazardous for seniors and those with mobility impediments. Mayor Simmons (PO24#27)
3. Cancellation of the City Council meeting of Mar 11, 2024. Mayor Simmons (PO24#28)
4. In appreciation of Social Workers and National Social Worker Month. Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Wilson (PO24#29)
5. Tenant Protection Resources. Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Azeem (PO24#30)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The **Economic Development and University Relations Committee** held a public hearing on Thurs, Feb 15, 2024 from 12:00pm-2:00pm to discuss the current lab, office, and retail vacancies in Cambridge and their expected impact on City revenues in the near and long term. [\[text of report\]](#)  
**Present:** McGovern, Toner, Wilson  
**Remote Present:** Siddiqui, Sobrinho-Wheeler

## COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, transmitting an update regarding legislative activity. (COF24#22)

## HEARING SCHEDULE

### Mon, Mar 4

5:30pm City Council Meeting

### Wed, Mar 6

12:00pm The **Housing Committee** will hold a public hearing to discuss the appointments to the Cambridge Housing Authority, CM24#12 and CM23#238. In addition to the appointments, the Housing Committee will review and discuss any necessary edits to the zoning language that would allow unrelated people to live together in the City of Cambridge, PO24#9.

3:00pm The **Economic Development and University Relations Committee** will hold a public hearing on the recent CSO Economic Impact Report.

### Mon, Mar 11

5:30pm City Council Meeting

### Mon, Mar 18

5:30pm City Council Meeting

### Tues, Mar 19

3:00pm The **Finance Committee** will hold a public meeting to review and discuss the FY25 Capital Budget and to continue the Dec 12, 2023 City Council discussion on Public Investment Planning and to discuss City Council budget priorities and goals.

### Mon, Mar 25

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Tues, Mar 26**

3:00pm 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 FY25 before it is submitted to the City Manager, as required under Cambridge Municipal Code Chapter 2.74.040.

**Mon, Apr 1**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Apr 8**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Apr 22**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Apr 29**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, May 6**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, May 13**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, May 20**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, June 3**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, June 10**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, June 17**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, June 24**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**TEXT OF ORDERS**

O-1 Mar 4, 2024

COUNCILLOR TONER

ORDERED: That the Executive Assistant to the City Council confer with the Dedication Committee to consider a request for a dedication in a suitable location to honor Paul Ryder; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward this order to the Dedication Committee for their review and approval.

O-2 Mar 4, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: It has been brought to the attention of the City Council that a number of senior residents have reported having increasing difficulty safely walking along Carl Barron Plaza due to uneven walkways, loose bricks, and elevated bricks that are contributing to seniors tripping and falling, and this problem appears to be particularly acute in the area where Magazine Street meets Green Street, near the bus stop; and

WHEREAS: The seniors who have reported these concerns understand that the whole area in question will be undergoing a major renovation in the coming years, but they nonetheless have safety concerns for seniors who must navigate the area in the meantime, and they are requesting

that the City establish a near-term solution to this issue; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to dispatch the appropriate City personnel to assess the sidewalks in and around Carl Barron Plaza, paying particular attention to those areas that may be hazardous for seniors and those with mobility impediments, and to establish a short-term solution to make these walkways safer as the area awaits a longer-term renovation, and to report back on this matter to the City Council in a timely manner.

O-3 Mar 4, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

ORDERED: That the regular City Council meeting scheduled for Mon, Mar 11, 2024 be and hereby is cancelled so that the City Council can attend the National League of Cities conference in Washington, D.C.

O-4 Mar 4, 2024

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: Social Work is a profession truly dedicated to helping people; and

WHEREAS: The primary mission of Social Work is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic and complex needs of all people; and

WHEREAS: Social Workers put a particular focus on helping people who are vulnerable, oppressed or living in poverty; and

WHEREAS: Social Workers follow a Code of Ethics that calls on them to fight social injustice, and respect the dignity and worth of all people; and

WHEREAS: Social Workers meet people where they are and help people and communities reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS: The Social Work profession, for more than a century, has worked to improve this society, with Social Workers playing a role in establishing a minimum wage, Social Security, and Medicare and working to ensure equal rights for women, African Americans and people who are LGBTQIA2S+; and

WHEREAS: Social Workers work in all facets of our society, including schools, hospitals, community organizations, the military, mental health centers, social service agencies, corporations, and local, state, and federal government; and

WHEREAS: Social Workers are on the frontlines in helping this nation solve pressing social problems, including an increased demand for mental health services; an opioid addiction crisis; and economic inequality; and

WHEREAS: Social Workers are in high demand, with some states reporting shortages in Social Work staffing and the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicting Social Work will be one of the fastest growing professions in our nation during this decade; and

WHEREAS: A public opinion survey from Ipsos said Social Work has a public approval rating of more than 80 percent and more than half of Americans say Social Workers deserve higher pay; and

WHEREAS: The 2024 Social Work Month theme, “Empowering Social Workers” embodies the need for society to support Social Workers so they can continue to do the life-affirming work they do and help address societal needs; and

WHEREAS: Social Workers in turn empower people, communities, and our nation, helping everyone achieve their full potential; now therefore be it

RESOLVED That the Cambridge City Council go on record thanking and appreciating Social Workers, not just in Cambridge, but around the country, for their tireless dedication to helping others, improving communities and efforts to make our world a more equitable and just place, and proclaiming the month of March 2024 as National Social Work Month.

O-5 Mar 4, 2024

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

WHEREAS: Through its excellent City Manager’s Housing Liaison Office and Multi-Service Center, the City of Cambridge is a leader in providing city resources for protecting tenants; and

WHEREAS: The City can continue to improve these resources by building on the important work of the Multi-Service Center, the City Manager’s Housing Liaison, and others in the City in assisting tenants, as well as the City’s existing contracts with legal services organizations; and

WHEREAS: The number of local evictions has been increasing, partly because pandemic-related policies have expired; and

WHEREAS: State Trial Court data show that statewide, while about 90 percent of landlords are represented by lawyers in eviction court, only about 10 percent of tenants have lawyers, and case outcomes reflect this drastic imbalance; and

WHEREAS: The City must continue to minimize the need for court action by providing adequate landlord-tenant mediation resources and better notice of tenant rights and resources; and

WHEREAS: The City Council is pleased to see a [funding recommendation](#) in Governor Healey’s FY25 budget and a favorable state legislative Judiciary Committee report on [House bill 4360](#), to address these issues statewide; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to improve city resources so that every Cambridge tenant who is served with a summary process complaint and has a household income no more than 80% AMI has access to representation by a lawyer in court if the tenant requests, if necessary by expanding existing city contracts with legal services organizations; and be it further

ORDERED: That sufficient mediation services continue to be available to resolve landlord-tenant disputes without court action whenever possible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to recommend more flexibility in the MSC’s payment of tenants’ emergency non-rent arrearages in order to prevent evictions; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to recommend ordinance amendments to the City of Cambridge Tenant Rights and Resources Ordinance, Chapter 8.71 of the City Code, to ensure that all Cambridge landlords and tenants receive annual notice from the City, for example in October, of these and other rights and resources; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to include in the FY25 budget amounts sufficient to carry out these policies; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the Housing Committee on progress within a reasonable time before filing the City FY25 budget; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record endorsing the Governor’s budget request and House bill 4360, to address access to eviction counsel statewide.