

## CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the 2025 Annual Surveillance Report concerning City departments' use of surveillance technology or surveillance data. (CM26#44) [[text of report](#)]
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the City of Cambridge retaining its Triple A (AAA) rating from the nation's three major credit rating agencies. (CM26#50) [[text of report](#)]
3. Transmitting a communication from City Manager Yi-An Huang relative to the 2025/2026 Green Jobs Initiative Report. (CM26#46) [[text of report](#)]
4. Transmitting a communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Mass Save Community First Partnership Grant in the amount of \$256,500, to the Grant Fund Office of Sustainability Other Ordinary Maintenance Account. These funds will be used to contract for outreach services to support energy efficiency programs for residents and small businesses. (CM26#47)
5. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to 2026-2027 Housing and Zoning priorities. (CM26#49) [[text of report](#)]
6. Transmitting a communication from City Manager, Yi-An Huang, regarding a free cash appropriation in the amount of \$400,000 to the General Fund Law Dept Travel and Training (Judgement and Damages) account for the settlement payment relating to Ahern v. Sig Sauer, Inc. and City of Cambridge (United States District Court District of Massachusetts, Docket No. 1:21-cv11007-DJC). (CM26#51) [[text of report](#)]

## ORDERS

1. City Council opposition to the Department of Education's Proposed Reclassification of Professional Degrees. Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui (PO26#52)
2. Recognize March 2026 as National Social Worker Month in the City of Cambridge. Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui (PO26#53)

## CHARTER RIGHT

1. Include discussion of other changes to the Cambridge Street zoning at the upcoming Ordinance Committee meeting about active ground floor use. [Charter Right – Al-Zubi, Mar 2, 2026] (PO26#50)

## ON THE TABLE

2. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant City departments to raise the fee of the parking permit program for all residents to \$75, consider how to include a self-identified check off option so as not to increase administrative costs for a subsidized fee of \$25 for residents who live in affordable housing, are enrolled in a program such as SNAP or are low income, remove the senior exemption for the residential parking permit program and

lower the number of cars that individual residents are allowed to get a residential parking permit for from four to two. [Charter Right – Simmons, Feb 9, 2026; Tabled Mar 2, 2026] (PO26#32)

3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a plan to align all housing and homeless services and programs into a unified Housing Department. [Tabled Feb 9, 2026] (CM26#24)

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. Amend section 4.50 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance as follows with the intent of permitting the use of land for the following purposes as-of-right in all zoning districts: religious purposes; educational purposes on land owned or leased by the Commonwealth or any of its agencies, subdivisions or bodies politic or by a religious sect or denomination, or by a nonprofit educational corporation; and for a child care center, school-aged child care program, family child care home, or large family child care home as defined in section 1a of Chapter 15d of Massachusetts General Laws. [Passed to 2nd reading Mar 2, 2026] (ORD26#1)

## COMMUNICATIONS

1. Adam Manacher – 3\_2 comment to be included in the public record
2. Arlyne Jackson – Comments regarding Charter Right #1
3. Audrey Cunningham – Parking Permit Exemption for Seniors
4. Blake Anderson – APP 202613 KSA Pole Banners
5. Brendan Hickey – Support PO 202637
6. Brendan Hickey – Transfer tax flaws
7. Brian Langevin – Support for Charter Right #1 March 2, 2026
8. Carolyn Fuller – Policy Order #4
9. Corina – parking in Cambridge
10. Ed Henley – Public Comment on Charter Right #1, March 2, 2026
11. Ed Henley – same as above
12. Jacquelyn Smith – Senior parking sticker fees increase
13. Kathy Watkins – do not implement parking permit fee for seniors
14. Kathy Watkins – Support for policy orders 3 and 4
15. Valerie M. Bonds – Charter #1 Senior Parking Exemption
16. Paul Stark – Policy order 4
17. Susan Markowitz – PO#13 support discussion of these items
18. Young Kim – My Comments tonight
19. Valerie A. Bonds – Some Members of the Cambridge City Council Proposing Removing the Senior Parking Exemption Fee

- 20. Kelly – Acrid smoke on Nichols Pl
- 21. Ethan Frank – Support for traffic safety cameras

**RESOLUTIONS**

- 1. Condolences to the family of Alfredo Roderick Brown. Councillor Simmons
- 2. Condolences to the family of Sylvia Kantor. Councillor Simmons
- 3. Condolences to the family of Joseph Sater. Councillor Simmons

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 1. The **Housing Committee** held a public hearing on Dec 16, 2025 to begin a discussion around social housing as referenced in PO25#131. [\[text of report\]](#)
- 2. The **Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee** held a public hearing on Jan 29, 2026 to discuss City Council Rules for the 2026-2027 term. [\[text of report\]](#)

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICERS**

- 1. Communicating information from the School Committee. (COF26#21) [\[text of report\]](#)
- 2. Communication from Councillor Nolan transmitting a calendar update on the Health and Environment Committee (COF26#22) [\[text of report\]](#)
- 3. A communication was received from Interim City Clerk, Paula M. Crane, regarding an update regarding legislative activity. (COF26#23)

**HEARING SCHEDULE**

**Mon, Mar 9**

- 2:30pm The City Council will meet in open session and then move to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation known as, Columbia St LLC v. City Docket Number 25 MISC 0007469, which is a civil case in the Land Court. Discussing this matter in an open session may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the City.
- 5:30pm City Council Meeting
- 6:30pm The City Council will hold a public hearing pursuant to Article 5, Section 5-1 of the Charter of the City of Cambridge, to consider the recommendation of the City Manager Yi-An Huang, on the **reorganization of the Housing Department** to consolidate City housing and homeless service programs currently provided across three City departments into one City department.

**Tues, Mar 10**

- 10:00am The **Finance Committee** will hold a public meeting to review and discuss the Police Department budget for FY27 before it is submitted to the City Manager, as required under Cambridge Municipal Code Chapter 2.74.040.

**Wed, Mar 11**

- 11:00am The **Human Services and Veterans Committee** will hold a public meeting to discuss support services and

planning considerations for disabled residents in Cambridge.

**Mon, Mar 16**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Mar 23**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Tues, Mar 24**

3:00pm The **Housing Committee** will hold a public hearing to receive an update on the Central Square Planning Process.

**Wed, Mar 25**

11:00am The **Housing Committee** and **Neighborhood Long Term Planning, Public Facilities, and Arts and Celebrations Committee** will hold a joint meeting to discuss present findings on the state of housing production since the passage of the Multifamily Zoning in February 2025.

**Mon, Mar 30**

11:00am The **Ordinance Committee** will hold a public meeting to review the Community Benefits Ordinance and discuss potential updates including allowing the allocation of funding to community organizations for capital projects [\(CM25#299\)](#)

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**TEXT OF ORDERS**

O-1 Mar 9, 2026

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The Department of Education has proposed [a new definition of a “professional degree”](#) that excludes master’s and doctoral programs in many vital professions, including nursing, social work, and allied health; and  
 WHEREAS: A professional degree is an advanced program that prepares students to work in specific fields and emphasizes hands-on training and practical skills; and  
 WHEREAS: Under the Department of Education’s new proposal, only eleven majors would count as professional degrees: medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, optometry, law, veterinary medicine, osteopathic medicine, podiatry, chiropractic, theology, and clinical psychology; and  
 WHEREAS: Graduate students who are not enrolled in professional degree programs can only borrow up to \$20,500 annually and the Department of Education’s proposed changes would make nursing, social work, and allied health degrees unattainable through federal loans, forcing low- and moderate-income students to take out loans with predatory private companies or not complete the degrees at all; and  
 WHEREAS: The fields of nursing and social work are facing workforce shortages, including a [projected shortage of 108,860 registered nurses by 2038](#) and a deficit of [74,000 social workers each year for the next decade](#); and

WHEREAS: Limiting the amount of student loans nursing, social work, and allied health students can take out would have severe impacts on the workforce, making the already critical workforce shortage even higher; and

WHEREAS: The Department of Education's proposed reclassification would have a disparate impact on women, as nursing, social work, and allied health professionals are disproportionately female, [including 85% of nurses and 82% of social workers](#); now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record urging our State House delegation and the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation to actively oppose the changes made in Section 81001(2) of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which amends Section 455(a) of the Higher Education Act and changes the definition of a professional student, professional degree, and length of study; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies

O-2 Mar 9, 2026

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: Social workers positively impact the lives of millions of Americans daily; in hospitals, schools, child welfare agencies, community, centers, and within all levels of government nationwide; and

WHEREAS: For more than a century, social workers have worked to improve human wellbeing, advocate for justice, and support everyone's basic needs; and

WHEREAS: Social workers select their profession out of a deep commitment to help uplift, defend, and transform the lives of people, their families and communities; and

WHEREAS: The 2026 Social Work Month theme, "Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform." shines a light on the resolute spirit of social workers who transform lives while bringing hope, healing, and justice to the communities they serve - especially in times of profound change and challenges; and

WHEREAS: Social workers follow a code of ethics that calls on them to stand for equity in every community, uphold human dignity, and fight injustice; and

WHEREAS: Social workers are on the frontlines defending vulnerable populations, including immigrants, LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, and those facing discrimination or poverty, while uplifting vital social safety net programs and ensuring the rights of everyone; and

WHEREAS: Social workers assist those navigating trauma, grief, and systemic biases, and help people recover from natural disasters, public health crises, and other issues while transforming their lives in encouraging ways; and

WHEREAS: Social workers confront oppression and racism, advocate for human rights, advance fair policies for all

persons, and break through barriers that prevent individuals and families from thriving; and

WHEREAS: Social workers support the well-being of children and care for those who have mental health issues and are recovering from substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS: The profession continues to grow, with more than 810,000 social workers in the United States who transform lives and shape a more just and compassionate society through leadership, education, advocacy and direct practice; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record proclaiming the month of March 2026 as National Social Work Month in celebration and support of the vital work of social workers in Cambridge and across the country who uplift, defend, and positively transform our communities every day.