CITY MANAGER’S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to second Annual Surveillance Report concerning City departments’ use of Surveillance Technology or Surveillance Data.

2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 20-20, regarding a response on coronavirus preparedness.

3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the reappointment of the following person as a Constable With Power for a term of three years, effective the first day of January, 2020: Philip Sciandra

4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of $40,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Cable Extraordinary Expenditures account which will be used for the purchase of a production van for 22-CityView, Municipal Cable Television.

5. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on the Children’s Savings Account Program.

6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of $4,000,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures Account to support the Complete Streets Reconstruction Program and for repaving portions of streets that are part of the separated bicycle network.

7. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of $7,250,000 for the reconstruction of Glacken Field and playground with an update on lighting. This is also in response to Awaiting Report Item Number 20-17.

8. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of $139,080 from Free Cash to the General Fund Fire Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account ($6,080) and to the General Fund Fire Department Extraordinary Expenditures account ($133,000) to cover the cost of the replacement of 18 sets of bunker gear for present members and to cover the cost of protection equipment for 10 new firefighters.

9. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of $1,500,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Fire Extraordinary Expenditures account which will fund the replacement of a 2002 Pierce Tower Ladder for Ladder 2 in East Cambridge.

10. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the FY20 STEP Grant in the amount of $59,875, received from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Highway Safety Division, to the Grant Fund Police Department Salary and Wages account, which will be used to supplement sustained, high visibility, year-round traffic enforcement.

11. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Shannon Grant in the amount of $33,585.19 received from the Metropolitan Mayors Coalition’s Community Safety Initiative through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, to the Grant Fund Police Department Salary and Wages account ($25,875.19) and the Other Ordinary Maintenance account ($7,710), which will be dedicated to hot spot patrols, Metro Gang Task Force participation, and the Focused Deterrence program.

12. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 18-66, regarding establishing a Young Adult Civic Unity Committee.

13. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following persons as Public Weighers for the calendar year 2020, to operate scales at Boston Sand & Gravel Co., located at 118R Industrial Park Road, Cambridge: Alan Bishop, Wei Li, Kyle Patterson, Walter Staples, Sam Magna, John Ehrenkrantz, Mike Denahy, Mike Gilroy, David Kelley, Jason Pianpiano, Wilfred Charles

ON THE TABLE

1. That the City Manager is requested to direct the City Solicitor, Community Development, Public Works, Inspectional Services and any other related departments to review the proposed amendments regarding the prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in New Buildings. [Tabled on Jan 27, 2020]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. 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]

3. That section 11.202(b) of Article 11.000, entitled SPECIAL REGULATIONS, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge, be amended the table as follows: Jan 28, 2020 (Annual Adjustment) $19.10 per square foot (amended to $20.10) [Passed to a 2nd Reading on Feb 24, 2020, to be Ordained on or after Mar 8, 2020.]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. A application was received from BL 27 Brattle MA LLC, requesting permission for an A Frame Sign, 2 tables, 6 chairs and planters in front of the premises numbered 27 Brattle Street thru Nov 26, 2020.

2. A Zoning Petition has been received from Salvatore Zinno Vice President, BMR-Third LLC, to Amend the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance by adding section 13.200 Planned Unit Development at Canal District Kendall PUD-CDK Amendment.

3. An application was received from BL 27 Brattle MA LLC, requesting permission for 5 tables and 15 chairs in front of the premises numbered 27 Brattle Street thru Nov 26, 2020.

4. An application was received from Foumami Harvard Square LLC, requesting permission for 5 tables and 15 chairs in front of the premises numbered 33 Brattle Street from Apr 1, 2020 thru Nov 30, 2020.
5. A Zoning Petition Has been received from Tom Hartingson, requesting that the City Council Ordain the Zoning language set forth relative to the Alewife Quadrangle Northwest Overlay District.

COMMUNICATIONS
1. A communication was received from McNamara Buck, 18 Gold Star Road Street, regarding the gas ban.
2. A communication was received from Mary-Catherine Deibel, regarding support for the zoning petition for Harvard Square.
3. A communication was received from Peter Magee, regarding making the Grand Junction Path a reality.
4. A communication was received from Matthew Brisch, 78 Howard Street, regarding the Harvard Square Zoning Petition.
5. A communication was received from Patrick Magee, regarding Grand Junction.
6. A communication was received from Fred Fantini, 4 Canal Park, regarding support for Grand Junction Overlay.
7. A communication was received from Paul Ferreira, regarding the Grand Junction Overlay District Zoning.
8. A communication was received from Kathryn Alexa Jackson, regarding the Harvard Square upzoning.
9. A communication was received from John Schall, 19 Hilliard Street, regarding the Harvard Square Zoning Petition.
10. A communication was received from Michael J. Delia, President and Chief Executive Office, East End House, regarding the Grand Junction Overlay Petition.
11. A communication was received from Samuel Bayer, 1 Stearns Street, regarding support for municipal broadband.

RESOLUTIONS
1. Congratulations to Eric Brambila on the opening of Corazón de Frida Mexican Cantina. Vice Mayor Mallon
2. Thanks to Rich Rogers for his years of exemplary work as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Greater Boston Labor Council. Councillor Simmons
4. Resolution on the death of Celia Ughetti. Councillor Toomey
5. Resolution on the death of Youn “Harry” Tank Chung. Councillor Toomey
7. Speedy Recovery wishes to Sal DiDomenico, Sr. Councillor Simmons
8. Resolution on the death of Sheila Walsh. Councillor Toomey
9. Resolution on the death of Jose Pacheco. Councillor Toomey
12. Retirement of Charles McIsaac from the Inspectional Services Department. Councillor Toomey
13. Retirement of David Byrne from the Inspectional Services Department. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Toomey
14. Congratulations to the Matignon Girls Varsity Basketball Team on their exceptional season. Councillor Toomey
15. Resolution on the death of Prudence Marks. Councillor Toomey

ORDERS
1. Coronavirus mitigation. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Carlone, Mayor Siddiqui
2. That the “2020 Cycling Safety Ordinance” be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee for discussion and recommendation. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Zondervan, Vice Mayor Mallon
3. That the City Council approve a Real Estate Transfer Fee Home Rule Petition. Councillor Carlone, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
4. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Inspectional Service Department to increase the fines for absentee property owners who continue to have violations stemming for rodent infestations. Councillor Toomey
5. That the City Council go on record stating its intent to have Cambridge be one of the pilot communities if Senate Bill 2553 passes. Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Carlone
6. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to take all necessary actions to protect the population, including, but not limited to, cancelling all non-essential events and gatherings, allowing staff to work from home when possible, providing visitor screening at senior living facilities, and preparing emergency medical facilities for treating respiratory infections. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Nolan

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS
1. A communication was received from Councillor E. Denise Simmons transmitting Coronavirus Preparation.
2. A communication was received from Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, transmitting comments on the 2020 Cycling Safety Ordinance.
3. A communication was received from Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui regarding COVID-19 Student Supports and Resources List.

HEARING SCHEDULE
Thurs, Mar 12
5:30pm Government Operations, Rules & Claims Committee will meet to continue discussion on extending the contract of City Manager Louis A. DePasquale beyond January 2021 (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, Mar 16
5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, Mar 17
5:00pm The Ordinance Committee will meet for a hearing on a petition to amend the definition of family in the Cambridge zoning ordinance (Sullivan Chamber - televised)
Mon, Mar 23
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, Mar 24
5:30pm Roundtable/Working Meeting for members of the City Council and School Committee to continue discussion regarding the school budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (Henrietta Attles Meeting Room - televised)

Thurs, Mar 26
10:00am  The Neighborhood & Long Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts & Celebration Committee will hold a public hearing to discuss the timeline, scope, and budget of the Tobin/Vassal Lane School Project and how it fits into the long term plan for all school buildings in the city to accommodate expected enrollment changes over the next 10 to 20 years and an update on the legislative office plans (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, Mar 30
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, Mar 31
3:00pm  The Economic Development and University Relations Committee will meet for a hearing to discuss challenges and opportunities that exist in City purchasing, procurement and programs for MWBEs and other historically disadvantaged businesses and non-profits in Cambridge (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Thurs, Apr 2
11:00am  The Human Services and Veterans Committee of the City Council will hold a public hearing to discuss harm reduction in Cambridge, hear input from community partners and legal scholars, and host a mock-SIS demonstration, and discuss a policy order out of committee asking the City to move forward with approving a supervised injection services location (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, Apr 6
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, Apr 7
3:00pm  The Economic Development and University Relations Committee will meet for a hearing to discuss a report back from the Economic Development Division of the Community Development Department on steps the City of Cambridge has taken towards developing a vacant storefront registration policy (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, Apr 13
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, Apr 14
5:00pm  The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing on the Affordable Housing Overlay Petition (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Wed, Apr 15
3:00pm  The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing on the Affordable Housing Overlay Petition (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Thurs, Apr 16

5:30pm  The Health and Environment Committee to hear a progress report and recommendations from the Climate Resilience Zoning Task Force (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, Apr 27
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, Apr 28
5:30pm  The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing to discuss the Harvard Square Conservation District Study Committee report (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, May 4
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, May 11
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Tues, May 12
9:00am  The Finance Committee will meet for a public hearing on the FY21 budget (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Wed, May 13
5:00pm  The Finance Committee will meet for continued public hearings on the FY21 budget (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, May 18
4:00pm  Cambridge Scholarship Awards Ceremony (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

Mon, June 1
5:30pm  City Council Meeting  (Sullivan Chamber - televised)

TEXT OF ORDERS
O-1  Mar 16, 2020
COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: As Massachusetts continues to grapple with the challenges posed by the novel coronavirus outbreak, the City of Cambridge must continue being vigilant in protecting our community from this developing public health concern, and in moving to minimize its impact locally; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Director of the Public Health Department and other appropriate personnel to design, develop, and implement a mobile Coronavirus Testing and Information Center that can rotate across 2-4 locations throughout the community to provide free testing for Cambridge residents and to ease the burden being placed upon our hospitals and health clinics; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate City personnel to establish barriered, outward-facing service counters that have a Plexiglass divider (similar to what is seen at the Cashier’s Window on the first floor of City Hall) for those City departments that have the greatest degree of daily
interaction with the public, to minimize the risk of infectious agents being spread; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to establish guidelines that will allow those City employees who are considered to be at the “highest risk” of developing the coronavirus to work remotely from home without losing their accrued paid sick time; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-2 Mar 16, 2020
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
VICE MAYOR MALLON
WHEREAS: In 2017, the City Council adopted goals including “Make it easy to move safely through the City, especially by sustainable modes of transportation”; and
WHEREAS: The City has committed to Vision Zero, which seeks to eliminate transportation fatalities and serious injuries, as well as reduce crash rates across all modes of transportation; and
WHEREAS: There have been multiple cyclist deaths and numerous serious injuries on Cambridge streets in the past several years; and
WHEREAS: Promoting sustainable transportation methods can help alleviate high levels of traffic in the region, provide alternatives for residents who cannot afford to have a car in the city, and help reduce Cambridge’s carbon footprint; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the attached “2020 Cycling Safety Ordinance” be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee for discussion and recommendation.

O-3 Mar 16, 2020
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
MAYOR SIDDIQUI
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
WHEREAS: Housing costs in and around Cambridge have increased consistently and dramatically over the last 20+ years, resulting in a lack of affordability and causing displacement of long-term lower, moderate, and middle-income residents; and
WHEREAS: A Real Estate Transfer Fee on commercial and residential property in Cambridge could yield millions of dollars in funding for urgently-needed affordable housing; and
WHEREAS: The Cambridge City Council adopted Policy Orders on Sept 18, 2017, Jan 10, 2019, and Dec 16, 2019 requesting that the City Manager instruct the City Solicitor to prepare a draft Home Rule petition for a Real Estate Transfer Fee; and
WHEREAS: The City Council has yet to receive any update on said Home Rule petition; and
WHEREAS: The local governments of Nantucket, Concord and Somerville have already approved Home Rule petitions for a Real Estate Transfer Fee; and
WHEREAS: The Boston City Council approved a Real Estate Transfer Fee that is now before the state legislature; and
WHEREAS: The City of Brookline approved a Real Estate Transfer Fee Home Rule petition on Dec 5, 2019 at a Town Hall meeting by a margin of 139-44; and
WHEREAS: The cities of Watertown and Arlington introduced Transfer Fee legislation for deliberation in their respective city governments; and
WHEREAS: State Representative Mike Connolly’s revised Transfer Fee enabling legislation, H. 4196 received a favorable recommendation from the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government and is now moving forward to the House Committee on Steering, Policy, and Scheduling with a recommendation that it “ought to pass”; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the Cambridge City Council approve a Real Estate Transfer Fee Home Rule Petition; and be it further
ORDERED: That this item be referred to the Ordinance Committee for discussion and deliberation; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager instruct the City Solicitor to read the Home Rule Petition and appear before the Ordinance Committee for discussion.

O-4 Mar 16, 2020
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
WHEREAS: While the City has taken a more aggressive approach to combat rodent issues, one of the main problems continues to be absentee landlords; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Inspectional Service Department to increase the fines for these type of property owners who continue to have violations stemming for rodent infestations and report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-5 Mar 16, 2020
COUNCILLOR NOLAN
VICE MAYOR MALLON
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
WHEREAS: Cambridge is committed to identifying and eliminating preventable causes of traffic fatalities and serious injuries; and
WHEREAS: In 2016, the Council adopted Vision Zero to promote safe and sustainable transportation, including “strategic enforcement of traffic rules and regulations”; and
WHEREAS: In 2019 there were 1,454 vehicle crashes in Cambridge, with hot spots in Central and Inman Square where traffic enforcement is difficult for safety reasons; and
WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Legislature Ways and Means committee will be reviewing Senate Bill 2553 next session, which calls for a pilot program of automated traffic enforcement in 10 communities across the state; and
WHEREAS: S2552 was written with privacy concerns in mind, including an emphasis on protecting minority communities, and the only data captured during this pilot program are license plate numbers which are deleted within 48 hours; now therefore be it
RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in support of this bill; and be it further
RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record stating its intent to have Cambridge be one of the pilot communities if this bill passes.

O-6 Mar 16, 2020
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
COUNCILLOR NOLAN
WHEREAS: COVID-19 has begun to spread in Massachusetts with 89 presumptive cases and 6 additional cases confirmed by the CDC as of Mar 11, 2020; and
WHEREAS: While COVID-19 presents as a mild flu-like illness in most people, with the primary symptoms being fever and dry cough, it is considered dangerous, especially for elderly and immunocompromised individuals, as well as those with underlying medical conditions including hypertension, cardiovascular disease and diabetes, and has already killed 38 people in the U.S., over 800 in Italy and more than 4,700 worldwide as of March 11 and has been officially declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO); and
WHEREAS: Limiting social contact (“social distancing”) is an effective way to interrupt and slow down the spread of the virus and preserve the medical system’s ability to treat severe cases by limiting how many patients are hospitalized at any given moment, and is being recommended by health experts as the best way to protect more vulnerable populations; and
WHEREAS: It appears that individuals can spread the virus even when experiencing no symptoms or mild symptoms; and
WHEREAS: It can take several days or even weeks for the virus to incubate inside a human host and days more for test results to indicate possible infection and days more for the CDC to confirm those results, with a limited supply of tests, leading to the disease progression advancing faster than officials and the press are able to track and report on; and
WHEREAS: Governor Baker has declared a state of emergency and announced new guidance for all employers throughout the state, which includes discontinuing all work-related travel, both foreign and domestic, encouraging telecommuting whenever possible, and emphasizing that any person feeling sick should stay home from work; now therefore be it
RESOLVED: That the City Council cancel, postpone or shorten all nonessential in-person meetings until further notice, including non-urgent committee meetings and regular meetings where no urgent business will be transacted; and be it further
RESOLVED: That the City Council seek to limit the transmission of disease by providing alternative means, via audio/video technology, for public comment to be delivered other than in-person at city hall; and be it further
RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record urging citizens who are safely able to do so to limit physical interactions outside their home, and to avoid large crowds and events when possible, including working from home as much as possible if employment circumstances allow; and be it further
RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record urging citizens to take further precautions including frequent hand washing and avoiding touching one’s face as well as following other practices and guidelines as suggested by the CDC and the Cambridge Health Department; and be it further
RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record urging anyone who is experiencing mild symptoms to stay home and notify close contacts, and anyone who is experiencing serious symptoms to seek medical assistance immediately; and be it further
RESOLVED: That these recommendations remain in effect until further notice; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to take all necessary actions to protect the population, including, but not limited to, cancelling all non-essential events and gatherings, allowing staff to work from home when possible, providing visitor screening at senior living facilities, and preparing emergency medical facilities for treating respiratory infections.