

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on COVID-19.
2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following person as a member of the Cambridge Health Alliance Board of Trustees for a term to expires June 30, 2021: James Henderson
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the transfer of \$50,000 from the General Fund Traffic, Parking and Transportation Fund Salary and Wages account to the Travel and Training (Judgment and Damages) account to cover current and anticipated medical services and/or prescription reimbursement costs for the remainder of the fiscal year for Traffic and Parking personnel injured in the performance of their duties.
4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$215,450 from Free Cash to the General Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account to support the Homeless Shelter / Local Restaurant Community Meals Program.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the relevant City departments to give the Council a financial impact summary on how the local Covid-19 response will be impacting the City's free cash and ability to budget looking into July 1, 2021, and to report back to the City Council in a timely manner. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS ON APR 6, 2020]

ON THE TABLE

2. 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]
3. That the "2020 Cycling Safety Ordinance" be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee for discussion and recommendation. [TABLED ON MAR 23, 2020]
4. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Director of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation on streets in each neighborhood that could be closed to all non-essential traffic for the duration of the Health Emergency and report back to the council as soon as possible. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS IN COUNCIL MAR 30, 2020]
5. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with DCR to explore closing Memorial Drive for the duration of the Stay at Home order to give people in

Cambridge a safe space to exercise and be outside without violating social distancing practices. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS IN COUNCIL MAR 30, 2020]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. 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]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Top Drawer, requesting permission for a external illuminating projecting sign at the premises numbered 5 Brattle Street approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutter mailing has been provided.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Hasson J. Rashid, regarding Participatory Budgeted Funded Project.
2. A communication was received from Jill Oliver, Murray Hill Road, regarding Policy Order #68.
3. A communication was received from Michelle Phoenix, regarding closure of streets during pandemic.
4. A communication was received from Alisa Lemberg, 25 Loomis Street, regarding Memorial Drive closure.
5. A communication was received from Steve Kurland, 350 Third Street, regarding 585 Third Street.
6. A communication was received from Jason Alves, East Cambridge Business Association, regarding CMA #1 waiver of personal property taxes.

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint and convene a Small Business Recovery Advisory Committee. Councillor Simmons, Vice Mayor Mallon
2. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint and convene a COVID-19 Advisory Committee to review the impact of the pandemic on local communities of color, to propose ways to better disseminate information on Impact to Communities of Color. Councillor Simmons
3. That in absence of revised City Council goals for the new term, the most recent approved goals are used in all Council business, particularly the budgetary process. Councillor Carlone, Councillor Simmons, Mayor Siddiqui
4. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Public Health Department to develop and implement stricter public health regulations to protect our grocery store workers. Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui
5. That the City Council go on record in full support of this petition and of Harvard graduate students as they

courageously stand up for their needs in a time of crisis.
Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor
Mallon, Councillor Zondervan

6. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to light up City Hall blue to honor all frontline workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Fri, Apr 17, 2020. Mayor Siddiqui
7. That the City Manager examine expanding the City's jobs programs for those unemployed in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Carlone
8. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to repurpose the War Memorial facility into only a COVID-19 testing and temporary quarantine site for unhoused individuals awaiting their test results. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority, transmitting the 2019 Annual Report.
2. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting Communicating regarding information from Apr 7 Regular School Committee Meeting and Public Hearing on the FY21 Budget.
3. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting Communicating regarding COVID-19 Response.
4. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting Communicating regarding COVID-specific Legal Coaching from New Leaf Legal.
5. A communication was received from Anthony Ivan Wilson, City Clerk, responding to a question regarding parliamentary procedure.
6. A communication was received from Councillor Quinton Zondervan, transmitting thoughts on planning for the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Apr 13

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber – televised virtual meeting)

Tues, Apr 14

5:00pm The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing on the Affordable Housing Overlay Petition. [CANCELLED]

Wed, Apr 15

3:00pm The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing on the Affordable Housing Overlay Petition. [CANCELLED]

Thurs, Apr 16

5:30pm The Health and Environment Committee to hear a progress report and recommendations from the Climate Resilience Zoning Task Force. [CANCELLED]

Mon, Apr 27

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber – televised virtual meeting)

Tues, Apr 28

5:30pm The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing to discuss the Harvard Square Conservation District Study Committee report. [CANCELLED]

Mon, May 4

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber – televised virtual meeting)

Tues, May 5

9:00am The Finance Committee will meet to conduct public hearings on the FY21 budget. (Sullivan Chamber – televised virtual meeting)

Mon, May 11

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber – televised virtual meeting)

Tues, May 12

9:00am The Finance Committee will meet for a public hearing on the FY21 budget. (Sullivan Chamber – televised virtual meeting)

Wed, May 13

5:00pm The Finance Committee will meet for continued public hearings on the FY21 budget. (Sullivan Chamber – televised virtual meeting)

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 Apr 13, 2020

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MALLON

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge continues to enact a number of emergency measures designed to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, shutting down all but our “essential” businesses, yet it is important that the City begin formulating a clear framework and recommendations that will assist local businesses when the time comes to begin reopening; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint and convene a Small Business Recovery Advisory Committee, a citywide group of business leaders culled from the 11 commercial districts, each of the neighborhood business associations, a business-owner from those neighborhoods that do not have a formal neighborhood business association, the Chamber of Commerce, Cambridge Local 1st, and any other relevant individuals, and that shall be charged with creating a pathway and recommendations on how to re-open businesses, and with disseminating information on how to access relief from the state and federal government and other critical information to the local business community; 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 Apr 13, 2020

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: It has become clear that the novel coronavirus that has negatively impacted virtually all aspects of our society has been particularly devastating to communities of color; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint and convene an advisory committee to review the impact of the pandemic on local communities of color, to propose ways to better disseminate information, relief, and resources to these communities, to begin collecting data on the neighborhoods that have been hardest hit in an effort to reduce infection rates and improve recovery rates, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-3 Apr 13, 2020

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The City Council has a financial responsibility to continue our budget process, even during the present health pandemic; and City business, in particular the annual budget process, continues; and

WHEREAS: The annual City budget is based on City Council goals; and

WHEREAS: On October 16, 2017 City Council provisionally adopted twelve goals that reflect our shared values on issues including, but not limited to affordable housing, economic and educational opportunity, sustainable energy and more; and

WHEREAS: Since 2019, the budgetary process highlights how the proposed budget met each of the above Council goals; and

WHEREAS: Whereas, since the beginning of the current term, the City Council meeting agenda packet has not listed any Council goals; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That in absence of revised City Council goals for the new term, the most recent approved goals are used in all Council business, particularly the budgetary process.

O-4 Apr 13, 2020

VICE MAYOR MALLON

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: On April 7, 2020, Governor Charlie Baker [issued an order with stricter guidelines](#) for grocery stores to follow during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS: While the order institutes several protections for patrons, there is little emphasis placed on supporting essential grocery store workers, who continue to provide critical, essential services at the risk of their own health; and

WHEREAS: [One employee](#) at Whole Foods' River Street location has tested positive for Coronavirus, and [a Market Basket employee](#) in Salem has died after contracting Coronavirus, illustrating just how dire this situation has become for our frontline grocery store employees; and

WHEREAS: Instituting stricter public health guidelines in essential food markets and grocery stores located in Cambridge with an emphasis on regulations that will protect and support workers, such as

- Requiring that grocery stores provide masks, [gloves](#), and [hand sanitizer](#) to employees for every shift worked
- Mandating more frequent store and equipment sterilizations

- Requiring [larger protective plexiglass barriers for cashiers allowing for maximal protection when within the recommended 6' distance](#)
- Requiring customers wear masks or [other face coverings](#) while in-store
- Providing signage [educating customers on acceptable types of face coverings to be worn in-store](#)
- Creating pick up only locations
- [Rerouting all cash transactions](#) to self-service kiosks
- [Shutting down a location where a grocery store worker has tested positive](#) for COVID-19 until the site is inspected by relevant City staff, and creating a clearly outlined sanitization program in these cases prior to opening
- [Encouraging grocery stores to give their workers hazard pay](#) and others that will help ensure these employees are able to safely perform their crucial work, safeguard the health of these workers and their families, and save lives; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Public Health Department to develop and implement stricter public health regulations to protect our grocery store workers; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council in a timely manner; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record as encouraging grocery stores and food markets to give their essential employees hazard pay during the COVID-19 pandemic.

O-5 Apr 13, 2020

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: Harvard University recently extended the tenure clocks for tenure track faculty by one year, acknowledging the gravity of the impact of COVID-19 on all forms of academic research; and

WHEREAS: PhD students face the same effects on research as faculty, being unable to enter laboratories, libraries, and field sites, being unable to work collaboratively, and moving to teach students online while taking care of themselves and their families. In addition, crucial conferences for presenting research have been cancelled while universities have begun announcing "hiring freezes," greatly endangering the ability of PhD's to produce meaningful research and find employment; and

WHEREAS: The Harvard Graduate Students Union (HGSU-UAW) and the GSAS Student Council have jointly petitioned the deans of Harvard University for "bridge-funding" of one year to PhD students in guaranteed funding years, other necessities like healthcare for students relying on external grants, fee waivers, and extensions for students taking qualification or general exams; therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record in full support of this petition and of Harvard graduate students as they courageously stand up for their needs in a time of crisis; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City of Cambridge echoes the call on Dean Dench, Dean Boodram, and Dean Aloise to expediently agree to the bridge-funding proposal as put forth by graduate student leadership, and to provide their students, whom are integral community members and incredible assets to Harvard University, the support they request.

O-6 Apr 13, 2020

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 pandemic has expanded the definition of frontline care workers to include grocery and pharmacy clerks, delivery drivers, public works teams, a variety of service-industry and custodial workers, in addition to first responders, nurses, doctors, and medical personnel who face daily risks in order to provide essential services; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is deeply appreciative of the daily sacrifice of these essential workers who are keeping our community safe, clean, supplied, and healthy during this pandemic; and

WHEREAS: Local and national legislators continue to work to advocate for expansion of funds to more appropriately support these frontline workers; and

WHEREAS: Until such a time as we are able to tangibly recognize these workers, the City of Cambridge wishes to recognize them symbolically, as has been done in neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS: In April 2019, the City Council approved the City Manager's request to install permanent LED lights at City Hall to be able to light the building when merited; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to light up City Hall blue to honor all frontline workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Friday, April 17, 2020, beginning at sundown.

O-7 Apr 13, 2020

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: Thousands of Massachusetts residents have been laid off or furloughed a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, including many in Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: The extent and duration of the recession caused by the pandemic is still unknown but is [likely to impact](#) the jobs of many Cambridge residents for several months; and

WHEREAS: While the federal government has passed relief bills related to the pandemic and is considering others, important provisions for workers [have been left out](#), and the City must be proactive in addressing the pandemic's effects locally; and

ORDERED: The City of Cambridge coordinates jobs programs for residents including the [Cambridge Works Program](#) and the [Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program](#); now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Department of Human Services and other relevant City departments to examine the possibility of expanding the City's jobs programs, both in terms of quantity of participants and the scope of resident eligibility; and be it further

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

O-8 Apr 13, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The city is preparing to open an emergency shelter at the War Memorial Recreation Center and Fieldhouse complex on Cambridge Street; and

WHEREAS: The World Health Organization (WHO) [advises](#) that [preliminary studies](#) have shown pre-symptomatic transmission by individuals up to several days prior to the onset of symptoms, and that transmission by truly asymptomatic individuals is possible; and

WHEREAS: As of April 8, 2020, The Johns Hopkins [ABX Guide](#) reports that infected individuals who aren't yet displaying symptoms may transmit 25-50% of total infections; and

WHEREAS: Recent [testing](#) of unhoused individuals in Boston revealed that several hundred individuals tested positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus even though they were not exhibiting symptoms at the time the test was taken; and

WHEREAS: It was explained during [discussion](#) at the March 30, 2020 City Council meeting that Cambridge's emergency shelter does not [intend](#) to test clients during intake except for those who are visibly displaying symptoms; and

WHEREAS: As of April 9, 2020, the council had not yet received enough information about day to day proceedings at the shelter, including hygiene, foodservice, and general downtime, to be confident in the ability of the facility to operate without significant pre-symptomatic transmission between clients; and

WHEREAS: Thousands of dormitory rooms and hotel rooms are now vacant in our city and available for proper isolation for unhoused individuals and anyone else who needs to be isolated from family members or roommates to avoid spreading or contracting COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: Tufts University has been preparing their COVID-19 response for weeks and has [segmented](#) their campus into separate zones for the four different types of populations being housed; and

WHEREAS: Cities including San Francisco have [changed course](#) to house homeless residents in hotels rooms rather than large, temporary, congregate settings because of the potential health risks; and

WHEREAS: Harvard has made its hotel available and MIT has made two of their dormitories available to house first responders and healthcare workers who need isolation, but the same is not being done for unhoused residents or any other groups in need of isolation space; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to repurpose the War Memorial facility into only a COVID-19 testing and temporary quarantine site for unhoused individuals awaiting their test results; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with Harvard, MIT, Lesley and local hotel operators to procure sufficient rooms to individually house people who lack access to a safe, transmission-free place to shelter; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to put forward any necessary appropriations to fund this level of response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter immediately.