

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$150,000 from Free Cash to the General Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account to support the continued operation of Food for Free services during the COVID-19 crisis.
2. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$500,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to the Grant Fund Public Works Department Extraordinary Expenditures Account which will be supplemented with \$379,000 in City funds to purchase three plug-in hybrid rubbish packers that will replace three diesel powered rubbish packers.
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$6,500,000 to provide funds for the design and construction of various water pollution abatement projects, including but not limited to Sewer Capital Repairs Program and climate change preparedness efforts.
4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$5,000,000 to provide funds for the reconstruction of various City streets and sidewalks.
5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$16,000,000 to provide funds for the Municipal Facilities Improvement Plan which will support improvements at the Department of Public works Complex including the Ryan Garage, Lafayette Square Firehouse structural repair, and other municipal buildings.
6. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$9,000,000 to provide funds for the construction of improvements of the Lexington Avenue and River Street Firehouses.
7. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$237,000,000 to provide funds for the design and construction of the Tobin Montessori and Vassal Lane Upper School.
8. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,800,000 to provide funds for various Schools for repairs to electrical service, roof replacement, chiller replacement, floor replacement and replacement of bi-directional amplifier and antenna in various school buildings.
9. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on COVID-19.

SUPPLEMENTAL CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

10. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$1 million from the Community Benefits Stabilization Fund to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance for the purpose of entering into grant agreements or contracts with nonprofit organizations in order for them to provide services to our most vulnerable residents during the COVID-19 emergency and recovery.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Police Department to provide information to the City Council about social media protocols and what disciplinary action has been taken as result of the Department's social media use incident. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR SIMMONS IN COUNCIL MAY 11, 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]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. 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]

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from John Chun, regarding Cambridge Highlands-Quad Committee's requests to Cabot, Cabot & Forbes.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Memorial Day Observance - May 25, 2020. Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern
2. Resolution on the death of Edward "Eddie" Johnson Jr. Councillor Toomey
3. Resolution on the death of Francesco Ciarlone. Councillor Toomey
4. Resolution on the death of Maria Ciarlone. Councillor Toomey

LATE RESOLUTIONS

5. Resolution on the death of Patricia Pratt. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Carlone

ORDERS

1. That the City Council go on record in support of House Bill 5036/Senate Bill 2659. Councillor Toomey, Mayor Siddiqui
2. Creating an Arts Recovery Advisory Committee. Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Councillor McGovern
3. That the City Council go on record in strong support of Bill HD. 5054 relative to restaurant delivery commissions during the COVID-19 state of emergency. Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern
4. That the City Manager is requested to provide an immediate update to the Council on the digital equity research initiative and advisory board, and on efforts to ensure reliable access to the internet citywide. Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Simmons, Councillor Zondervan
5. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Election Commission and Board of Election Commissioners to determine the feasibility of universal vote-by-mail for the City of Cambridge. Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Carlone
6. That the City Manager is requested to amend the Cambridge emergency advisory on face coverings/masks to require face coverings be worn inside common areas of multi-unit buildings with the exception of 2-and 3- family buildings and in all workplaces where more than one person is present at all times. Councillor Nolan, Councillor McGovern
7. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to develop and present to the City Council a comprehensive strategy for how we are going to reopen the city. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
8. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with DPW to begin distributing Gator Bags. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Carlone
9. That Chapter 2.108 be amended by inserting a new section 2.108.140. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, communicating information from the School Committee's Special Meetings held on May 7, 2020.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, May 18

5:30pm City Council Meeting - FY21 Budget Submission (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Tues, May 26

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 1

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Tues, June 2

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Wed, June 3

6:00pm Finance Committee will meet for a public hearing on the FY21 School Department budget (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Thurs, June 4

9:00am Finance Committee Hearing (if necessary) (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting - Budget Adoption (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

Mon, June 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber, virtual)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: Massachusetts House Bill 5036 filed by Representatives Barber and Farley-Bouvier /Senate Bill 2659 filed by Senator Eldridge is an "Act to provide equal stimulus checks to immigrant taxpayers"; and

WHEREAS: House Bill 5036/Senate Bill 2659 would provide Massachusetts Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITIN) holders state-funded stimulus checks due to their exclusion from the federal CARES act; and

WHEREAS: Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers are issued by the IRS for tax filing purposes to individuals who are ineligible for Social Security Numbers who pay taxes through alternative means; and

WHEREAS: There are an estimated 57,000 ITIN filers in Massachusetts who pay taxes and it is important for our state to close the gap left by the federal CARES act; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in support of House Bill 5036/Senate Bill 2659; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Senate, and Governor's office on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-2 May 18, 2020

VICE MAYOR MALLON

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the Arts community, with [the Massachusetts Cultural Council reporting](#) that more than \$264 million in revenue has been lost and 15,000 jobs have been affected; and

WHEREAS: As the Arts are a crucial driving force in our economy, ensuring our Arts community is well-supported and able to reemerge in a meaningful way in the coming months will help our local economy recover from the effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: The Arts also play a unique and invaluable role in Cambridge, bringing our community together, enriching the lives of our residents, and helping us cope and relieve stress during difficult times, especially during the past several weeks of isolation; and

WHEREAS: For these reasons, it is imperative that the City actively works to uplift the Arts community; and

WHEREAS: [A Small Business Advisory Committee](#) was recently created to develop reopening recommendations, offer guidance to small businesses on relief programs available, and play a key role in fostering communication between small businesses and City staff; and

WHEREAS: Our local Arts community could greatly benefit from having a similar, dedicated advisory group focused on their specific needs of financial stabilization and security, and a gradual reopening of Arts facilities; and

WHEREAS: As Governor Baker recently released a phased reopening plan for the Massachusetts economy, now is the time to create such a group to ensure our Arts community is prepared for reopening; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint and convene an Arts Recovery Advisory Committee, to include representation from the Cambridge Arts Council, the Economic Development Division of the Community Development Department, local arts organizations, local individual artists from different artistic disciplines, and other relevant parties, to provide insight on how the City can best support the Arts in the coming months; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide regular updates to the City Council on the Arts Recovery Advisory Committee's work and recommendations, to ensure the City Council is able to act on their recommendations in a timely manner; and be it further

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

O-3 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has long been dedicated to supporting locally owned or operated businesses and the character and diversity they bring to our city; and

WHEREAS: The Council voted unanimously on [PO #88](#) for the City Manager to work with relevant departments to restrict third party delivery fees to restaurants and disclose to customers of how delivery charges are allocated; and

WHEREAS: State Bill [HD. 5054](#) relative to restaurant delivery commissions during the COVID-19 state of emergency was filed by Rep. Michael Day and has the support of all Cambridge State Representatives; and

WHEREAS: If immediate action is not taken, the City of Cambridge is in danger of losing the diverse range of its local restaurants to the COVID-19 crisis; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record in strong support of [Bill HD. 5054](#) relative to restaurant delivery commissions during the COVID-19 state of emergency; and further be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to respond by the next regular meeting with all possible legal strategies that could be employed in Cambridge to cap fees and guarantee transparency; and further be it

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

Governor with a thank you to the Cambridge State House Delegation on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-4 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: Internet access is indispensable in the 21st century, and while Cambridge is seen as a technology and innovation hub, the City suffers from a lack of internet provider competition, and has unusually low speeds and service and a persistent digital divide; and

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 Pandemic has forced all city buildings to close, including the library, senior center, and youth centers, taking away computer and internet access from those who lack it in their own homes; and

WHEREAS: With between 40 and 50% of low-income residents lacking broadband access, what was already a significant disparity has now been amplified; and

WHEREAS: The Council has passed four orders requesting the City Manager allocate funds for a comprehensive feasibility study of municipal broadband, including voting on February 24, 2020 requesting the City Manager [produce](#) a request for proposal by April 1, 2020, for a municipal broadband feasibility study, and

WHEREAS: The City has worked with the school department to provide temporary internet access to all students, in light of instruction being online; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager is requested to provide an immediate update to the Council on digital equity, and on efforts to ensure reliable access to the internet citywide; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager is requested to provide the Council with an update by the next regular meeting on the Request for Proposal for the feasibility study of municipal broadband.

O-5 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: The long-term effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic are unknown and we need to prepare for unsafe conditions lasting into the fall and beyond; and

WHEREAS: The [Wisconsin elections on April 7th, 2020](#) showed the danger, stress, and complications of voting in-person during a pandemic; and

WHEREAS: Even if municipal buildings are open to the public in the fall, it will most likely still be dangerous for vulnerable populations hit hardest by this crisis to perform any nonessential activity; and

WHEREAS: No person should have to put their health and safety in danger to exercise their right to vote; and

WHEREAS: Mayor Siddiqui is a signatory to a [letter from 22 mayors](#) across the Commonwealth to the Massachusetts legislative leadership asking for urgency in passing a Vote by Mail program; and

WHEREAS: Efforts have accelerated at the national level to ensure that people may exercise their right to vote safely in the fall, with Senator Elizabeth Warren [a key sponsor of legislation](#), now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Election Commission and Board of Election Commissioners to determine the feasibility of universal vote-by-mail for the City of Cambridge; and be it further

ORDERED: That the Council go on record in support of vote-by-mail for the entire state of Massachusetts; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this policy order to the City's Delegation in the State Legislature on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-6 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: The science is exceedingly clear that indoor transmission of COVID-19 poses a great risk; and

WHEREAS: The city's emergency order allows workers in indoor workplaces other than retail environments and people inside multi-unit buildings larger than 2 and 3- families to not wear a mask if six feet away from others; and

WHEREAS: That advice is counter to [scientific evidence](#); now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager is requested to amend the Cambridge emergency advisory on face coverings/masks to require face coverings be worn inside common areas of multiunit buildings with the exception of 2-and 3- family buildings and in all workplaces where more than one person is present at all times.

O-7 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: Governor Baker recently announced a [four-step plan](#) to reopen Massachusetts, with execution beginning as soon as May 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS: Governor Baker's [Reopening Advisory Board](#) does not include any front line workers or labor leaders, and there is significant concern that reopening too quickly could lead to a resurgence of infections, with severe impacts on the working class and communities of color that are already facing disproportionate impact; and

WHEREAS: Transportation Secretary Stephanie Pollack [reported](#) that while travel across the state remains 70-80% lower than baseline levels in January, daily vehicle miles traveled has increased by 50% compared to the final week of April, and we should anticipate that people will start to move around more as the weather improves and more businesses start to reopen, leading to the potential for new outbreaks and subsequent impacts; and

WHEREAS: The city's response to the pandemic so far has been reactive, responding as best as possible to pressing needs as they have emerged, and very little planning has been presented to the City Council for how to avoid anticipated impacts as we begin to reopen; and

WHEREAS: Testing, tracing, and treatment are critical to preventing new outbreaks that could lead to another devastating shutdown, and we have only just begun to provide testing to Cambridge residents in East Cambridge, with plans announced for the Port and Cambridge Housing Authority buildings, with no clear plans in place for contact tracing beyond what the state is doing, or quarantine of individuals who test positive, going forward; and

WHEREAS: Basic needs including shelter, food, and cash will continue to be a problem for many Cambridge residents, and current efforts may not be sufficient to address future needs; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to develop and present to the City Council a comprehensive strategy for how we are going to reopen the city, including, but not limited to, plans around:

- COVID-19 testing, including both PCR and antibody testing, with testing sites located in the hardest hit neighborhoods
- Contact tracing to identify people who may have been exposed to anyone who tests positive
- Treatment and quarantine for anyone who tests positive, including hotel or dormitory space for those who cannot safely quarantine at home
- Plans to ensure food access amidst record unemployment; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to include specific strategies for addressing disparate impacts that re-opening may have on communities of color, the unhoused, the elderly, those with underlying medical conditions, and any other vulnerable populations already being disproportionately impacted by the pandemic; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back as soon as possible.

O-8 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the weather is getting warmer and trees are leafing out around the city; and

WHEREAS: Many of the existing street and park trees will struggle without regular watering, including any new trees planted within the last few years; and

WHEREAS: The Spring planting program was understandably suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but it is important that gator bags are distributed as soon as possible; and

WHEREAS: Gator bags make it easier for residents to assist with trees that need additional water in order to stay alive during dry weather; and

WHEREAS: It is important that we protect our investment in recently planted street trees and maximize the opportunity for residents to help; and

WHEREAS: Residents could request a gator bag through SeeClickFix; and

WHEREAS: The City Council recognizes the critical importance of maintaining our declining tree canopy; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with DPW to begin distributing gator bags, including at minimum making them available on demand as soon as possible so that residents who are willing, able, and interested in doing so can begin to assist with watering street trees; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager report back to the City Council on this matter by the next regular meeting.

O-9 May 18, 2020

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The municipal code includes [Chapter 2.108](#) -

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, which calls for, among other things, a staffed emergency management department; and

WHEREAS: Chapter 2.108, was originally written in preparation for wartime and lacks specifics around pandemics, like the current COVID-19 pandemic we are experiencing; and

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 pandemic has caught us completely unprepared, leading to disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS: As of mid-May 2020, Cambridge is experiencing a 21% death rate among nursing home residents who test positive, an infection rate among African American people that is 3 times that of White people in the city, and significant infection rates among the city's unhoused community; and

WHEREAS: The pandemic has also led to economic devastation, including record unemployment, and the consequences of a resurgence, second wave, or future pandemic of similar or worse proportion would be unbearable without better preparation; and

WHEREAS: Climate change and habitat destruction will lead to increased risk of future pandemic disease emergence, which without sufficient preparedness and response could well lead to even worse outcomes than the current pandemic; and

WHEREAS: It has long been the City Council's goal to provide affordable housing to all residents, yet unhoused residents were left without safe space to shelter during the pandemic; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That Chapter 2.108 be amended by inserting a new section 2.108.140 to read as follows:

2.108.140 - Shelter During a Pandemic

In the event of an infectious disease pandemic or other similar emergency, and in response to a stay at home order, advisory or guidance, upon the declaration of a public health emergency, the City Manager shall direct the Head of the Emergency Management Agency or other city official in charge to establish safe shelter for all who need it, including but not limited to: individuals experiencing homelessness, elderly and other vulnerable populations, workers and city staff, and other residents who cannot safely isolate in their homes.

2.108.140.10 - Procurement of Hotels and Dormitories

In the event that section 2.108.140 is invoked, the City Manager shall procure, acquire, commandeer or construct such hotel, dormitory or emergency shelter space as necessary to provide shelter for all who require it, including any resident who is unhoused, or who is unable to safely isolate in their current home or place of shelter.

2.108.140.20 Universal Housing

To reduce the need for emergency shelter during a pandemic or other emergency, and avoid the associated risks to health and safety, the City Manager shall ensure that at all times there is sufficient housing available in the city for all Cambridge residents. To implement this provision the City Manager shall put forth regulations that identify who are eligible to receive subsidized housing, and any other regulations necessary to ensure that those who are eligible are provided with safe and adequate housing at all times.

2.108.140.30 - Universal Testing

In the event that section 2.108.140 is invoked, the City Manager shall procure, acquire, commandeer or otherwise cause sufficient testing for disease prevalence to take place, provided such testing is available, so as to ensure the health and safety of all residents.

2.108.140.40 - Data Reporting

In the event that section 2.108.140 is invoked, the City Manager shall ensure that timely and comprehensive data is reported on disease prevalence, mortality, hospitalization and demographics, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, age and other factors that may indicate disparate impacts, and shall direct all agencies to minimize such disparate impacts through equitable allocation of resources.