



# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## COMMITTEE MEETING

~ MINUTES ~

Thursday, May 15, 2025

9:00 AM

Sullivan Chamber

**The Finance Committee will conduct a public hearing on the City and School budgets covering the fiscal period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.**

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Burhan Azeem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marc C. McGovern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9:26 AM
Patricia Nolan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sumbul Siddiqui	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Paul F. Toner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9:25 AM
Ayesha M. Wilson	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Catherine Zusy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
E. Denise Simmons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9:24 AM

A public meeting of the Cambridge City Council's Finance Committee was held on Thursday, May 15, 2025. The meeting was Called to Order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chair, Councillor Nolan. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2025 adopted by Massachusetts General Assembly and approved by the Governor, this public meeting was hybrid, allowing participation in person, in the Sullivan Chamber, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA and by remote participation via Zoom.

**At the request of the Chair, Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Absent\*

Councillor Nolan – Present/In Sullivan Chamber

Councillor Siddiqui – Present/In Sullivan Chamber

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Present/Remote

Councillor Toner – Absent\*

Councillor Wilson – Present/Remote

Councillor Zusy – Present/In Sullivan Chamber

Mayor Simmons – Absent\*

**Present – 5, Absent – 4. Quorum established.**

\*Mayor Simmons was present and remote at 9:24a.m.

\*Councillor Toner was present and remote at 9:25a.m.

\*Vice Mayor McGovern was present and remote at 9:26a.m.

\*Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler went from remote to the Sullivan Chamber at 9:36a.m.

\*Councillor Wilson went from remote to the Sullivan Chamber at 11:44a.m.

The Chair, Councillor Nolan offered opening remarks and noted that the Call of the meeting was to hold a public hearing on City budget covering the fiscal period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. Present at the meeting was City Manager, Yi-An Huang, Deputy City Manager, Owen O'Riordan, Budget Director, Taha Jennings, Assistant City Manager of Fiscal Affairs, Claire Spinner.

The Chair, Councillor Nolan shared that questions and Departments that were pulled for today's meeting were being added to the Agenda Packet. Chair Nolan added that some of the questions were given to Departments in advance, so they were prepared to respond. In addition, Councillor Wilson shared that she would be asking every department to share the diversity of their staff.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Zusy who made a motion to forward the City Overview, Financial Summaries, and Revenue FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Absent

Councillor Nolan – Yes

Councillor Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes

Councillor Toner – Absent

Councillor Wilson – Yes

Councillor Zusy – Yes

Mayor Simmons – Absent

**Yes – 5, No – 0, Absent – 4.**

### **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Crystal Rosa, Language Access Manager, who read a response to questions submitted by Mayor Simmons in advance. In addition, Crystal Rosa provided information on the budget and how it relates to current and future initiatives, as well as training opportunities for the community. Committee members thanked Crystal Rosa and the Human Rights Commission for their hard work during uncertain times.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Siddiqui who made a motion to forward the Human Rights FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes

Councillor Nolan – Yes

Councillor Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes

Councillor Toner – Yes

Councillor Wilson – Yes

Councillor Zusy – Yes

Mayor Simmons – Yes

**Yes – 8, No – 0, Absent – 1. Motion passed.**

### **LIBRARY**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Maria McCauley, Director of Libraries, Joy Kim, Deputy Director, Rutuja Patwardhan, Assistant Director for Human Services. Maria McCauley offered a brief opening statement. The Library team responded to questions related to ordinary maintenance, the addition of more staff, digital equity program, and the Hive.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Siddiqui who made a motion to forward the Library FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes

Councillor Nolan – Yes

Councillor Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes

Councillor Toner – Yes

Councillor Wilson – Yes

Councillor Zusy – Yes

Mayor Simmons – Yes

**Yes – 8, No – 0, Absent – 1. Motion passed.**

### **VETERANS SERVICES**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Acting Director, Cynthia Harris, and Veteran's Services staff, Herman Sanchez. Cynthia Harris read from a prepared statement which addressed questions that were provided in advance. In addition, Cynthia Harris responded to questions from Mayor Simmons, Councillor Zusy, Vice Mayor McGovern, and Councillor Wilson, such as mental health services. Committee members thanked Cynthia Harris and Veterans for their service.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Transportation Commissioner, Brooke McKenna, and the team from the Department of Transportation. Commissioner McKenna and the Transportation team responded to questions and comments related to ordinary maintenance, parking information systems, inventory of parking and loss of parking, commercial parking, collaborations opportunities both internal and external, automated traffic enforcement, Parking Demand Management working group, resident permit parking fees, and updates on street infrastructure projects.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler who made a motion to forward the Department of Transportation FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes

Councillor Nolan – Yes

Councillor Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes

Councillor Toner – Yes

Councillor Wilson – Yes

Councillor Zusy – Yes

Mayor Simmons – Yes

**Yes – 8, No – 0, Absent – 1. Motion passed.**

### **CHERRY SHEET**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Taha Jennings who responded to clarifying questions related to Cherry Sheet and the budget.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Zusy who made a motion to forward the Cherry Sheet FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes

Councillor Nolan – Yes

Councillor Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes

Councillor Toner – Yes

Councillor Wilson – Yes

Councillor Zusy – Yes

Mayor Simmons – Absent

**Yes – 7, No – 0, Absent – 2. Motion passed.**

### **WATER DEPARTMENT**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Mark Gallagher, Managing Director, and Elisabeth Barr, Administration and Fiscal Operations Manager. Mark Gallagher read from a prepared statement and highlighted the importance of having reliable water for the City and its residents to function and thrive and reviewed the main functions and operations of the Water Department. In addition, Mark Gallagher shared how the Water Department and DPW work together as it relates to different construction and projects throughout the City and provided a brief review of potential changes in PFAS through the Federal Government and addressed drought concerns.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Zusy who made a motion to forward the Water Department FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes

Councillor Nolan – Yes

Councillor Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes

Councillor Toner – Yes

Councillor Wilson – Yes

Councillor Zusy – Yes

Mayor Simmons – Absent

**Yes – 7, No – 0, Absent – 2. Motion passed.**

## **MWRA**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan provided a brief overview of the MWRA budget and the function of the MWRA.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Zusy who made a motion to forward the MWRA FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes

Councillor Nolan – Yes

Councillor Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes

Councillor Toner – Yes

Councillor Wilson – Yes

Councillor Zusy – Yes

Mayor Simmons – Yes

**Yes – 8, No – 0, Absent – 1. Motion passed.**

## **PUBLIC INVESTMENTS**

The Chair, Councillor Nolan noted that the Public Investments budget covers many City Departments and that page V-6 of the budget book provides a summary of where the funding goes to. City Manager Huang, Deputy City Manager O’Riordan, and Public Works Commissioner, Kathy Watkins, as well as many Department Heads were available to respond to questions and concerns related to the budget and noted that many projects in the City overlap within the different Departments and staff were available to provide updates on current and future projects. City Manager Huang shared that in December of last year there was a Public Investment Committee meeting which discussed and reviewed the anticipated expenditure for public investment for the next five years, and that the numbers are consistent with that report.

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Wilson who made a motion to forward the Public Investment FY26 Budget to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent

Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes

Councillor Nolan – Yes  
Councillor Siddiqui – Yes  
Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes  
Councillor Toner – Absent  
Councillor Wilson – Yes  
Councillor Zusy – Yes  
Mayor Simmons – Absent  
**Yes – 6, No – 0, Absent – 3. Motion passed.**

**The Chair, Councillor Nolan recognized Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler who made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**Deputy City Clerk Crane called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent  
Vice Mayor McGovern – Yes  
Councillor Nolan – Yes  
Councillor Siddiqui – Yes  
Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler – Yes  
Councillor Toner – Absent  
Councillor Wilson – Yes  
Councillor Zusy – Yes  
Mayor Simmons – Absent  
**Yes – 6, No – 0, Absent – 3. Motion passed.**

**The Finance Committee adjourned at approximately 1:27p.m.**

**Clerk's Note:** The City of Cambridge/22 City View records every City Council meeting and every City Council Committee meeting. The video for this meeting can be viewed at:

[https://cambridgema.granicus.com/player/clip/1030?view\\_id=1&redirect=true](https://cambridgema.granicus.com/player/clip/1030?view_id=1&redirect=true)

**A communication was received from Councillor Nolan, transmitting FY26 Budget Hearing submitted questions.**

**A communication was received from Taha Jennings, Budget Director, transmitting the FY26 Budget hearing schedule.**

**Please find attached the non-verbatim transcript for the  
May 15, 2025 Budget Hearing**

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\*\*\*\*

>> YOU HAVE FIVE MEMBERS RECORDED  
AS PRESENT AND FOUR ABSENT.  
>> Councillor Nolan: WE WILL  
CONTINUE WITH THE MEETING.  
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 2 OF THE  
ACTS MUCH 2023, ADOPTED BY THE  
MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT AND  
APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR.  
THE CITY IS AUTHORIZED TO USE  
REMOTE PARTICIPATION OF MEETINGS  
OF THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL.  
IN ADDITION, MEMBERS OF THE  
COUNCIL PARTICIPATE REMOTELY AND  
CAN DO THAT THROUGH OUR ZOOM  
TELECONFERENCE.  
WE ALSO HAVE ZOOM TELECONFERENCE  
FOR PUBLIC COMMENT CAN ALSO  
VIEW THE MEETING VIA THE CITY'S  
OPEN MEETING PORTAL OR ON CABLE  
CHANNEL 22.  
TO SPEAK DURING PUBLIC COMMENT  
YOU MUST SIGN UP AT  
[WWW.CAMBRIDGEMA.GOV](http://WWW.CAMBRIDGEMA.GOV)  
YOU CAN ALSO E-MAIL WRITTEN  
COMMENTS FOR THE RECORD TO THE  
CITY CLERK AT  
[CITYCLERK@CAMBRIDGEMA.GOV](mailto:CITYCLERK@CAMBRIDGEMA.GOV).  
WE WELCOME YOUR PARTICIPATION  
AND YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR PUBLIC  
YOU INSTRUCTIONS HOW TO SPEAK  
ARE ON THE WEB PAGE AND ONCE  
SIGNED UP YOU'LL RECEIVE A LINK  
TO THE MEETING OR PRESENT IN THE  
CHAMBER YOU CAN GIVE PUBLIC  
COMMENT.  
WITH THAT ALL TODAY'S VOTES WILL  
BE BY ROLL CALL.

I WILL OPEN THE MEETING -- YOU  
CAN HEAR ME THROUGH THE MASK,  
CORRECT?  
I'M STILL NEGATIVE WHICH IS  
GOOD.  
I'M STILL WEARING A MASK TO  
REMIND US ALL.  
IS THERE ANYONE FOR PUBLIC  
COMMENT?  
I BELIEVE ANDY FERRELL WANTED TO  
GIVE PUBLIC COMMENT.  
MAKE SURE THE MICROPHONE IS  
PUSHED.  
>> MY NAME IS ANDREW FERRELL AND  
COACHED AND PLAYED SOCCER IN 30  
YEARS.  
I SUPPORT THE IMPROVEMENTS AT  
THE AHERN FOR OUR MOST CHERISHED  
ASSET.  
I WAS A PAST PRESIDENT OF CYS  
AND 18th YEAR AS DIRECTOR OF THE  
KICK START PROGRAM WITH 300, 4,  
5 AND 6-YEAR-OLDS IN EAST  
CAMBRIDGE.  
I'VE COACHED MORE THAN 3500  
STUDENTS IN THE CITY.  
I MET WITH CITY MAYORS, STAFF,  
COUNCILLORS IN SUPPORT OF  
CONVERTING THE RIGHT NUMBER OF  
FIELDS IN THE RIGHT LOCATIONS TO  
SYNTHETIC TURF.  
EVERY TIME I RECOMMENDED FIELDS  
IN EAST CAMBRIDGE AND EACH TIME  
THEY'VE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE  
FINAL PROPOSALS.  
CAMBRIDGE DOES NOT OVER FILL  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS TO  
AVOID ANOTHER SCHOOL.  
WHEN THERE WAS RENOVATION THEY  
RETAINED FACILITIES TO ENCOURAGE  
THE ARTS.  
THE CAMBRIDGE MAIN LIBRARY HAS  
THE FEATURES AND RESOURCES  
NECESSARY SUPPORT A THRIVING  
INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY AND  
SOURCE OF PRIDE.  
CYS IS A THRIVING COMMUNITY WITH



DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS.  
THE PROGRAM RECEIVED NATIONAL  
RECOGNITION FOR THE FOCUS ON  
COMMUNITY AS JASON TARDOV WAS  
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR BY  
U.S. YOUTH SOCCER.  
WE'RE NOT ASKING FOR THE  
ELIMINATION OF ALL GREEN SPACE,  
WE'RE ASKING FOR THE RIGHT  
BALANCE AND  
[TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES]  
THE GAME QUALITY FIELD CAN BE  
USED HALF THAT AMOUNT OF TIME.  
CAMBRIDGE CANNOT HAVE THAT MUCH  
PLAYING FIELD TO SUPPORT SOCCER  
AND THE OTHER YOUTH SPORTS.  
WE KNOW ADULTS NEED EXERCISE TO  
REMAIN CALM JUST AS KIDS NEED IT  
TO GROW.  
PLEASE INVEST IN OUR CHILDREN,  
INVEST IN OUR CITIZENS, INVEST  
IN OUR CITY BY CREATING A FIELD  
ENVIRONMENT THAT CAN WITHSTAND  
THE HOURS OF USE THE CITY'S  
PLAYERS AND ATHLETICS DEMAND.  
IT CAN BE USED IN ALMOST ANY  
WEATHER AND WILL BECOME THE  
FOCUS OF COMMUNITY PLAY IN EAST  
CAMBRIDGE.  
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.  
>> Mayor Simmons: IS ANYONE ELSE  
IN THE CHAMBER WANTING TO SPEAK?  
THANK YOU.  
WE'LL NOW PROCEED TO DEPARTMENTS  
LEFT TO DISCUSS WHAT A PROPOSE  
AND ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO DO WE  
HAVE 10 DEPARTMENTS BEFORE US,  
HOWEVER THREE LISTED ON THE  
SHEET THE CITY OVERVIEW SECTION,  
FINANCIAL SUMMARY SECTION AND  
REVENUE SECTION, ARE CRITICALLY  
IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE BUDGET  
AND DO NOT HAVE SPECIFIC BUDGETS  
ASSOCIATED WITH THEM BECAUSE  
WHAT THEY DO IS BRING OTHER  
DEPARTMENT AND BUDGETS TOGETHER,  
FOR INSTANCE, THERE'S

CONSOLIDATED SPENDING WHICH  
LISTS BY COUNCIL PRIORITY THE  
RANGE AND TOTAL OF EXPENDITURES  
ON BEHALF OF VARIOUS COUNCIL  
PRIORITIES.  
EACH OF THOSE INDIVIDUAL BUDGETS  
ARE IN A DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET.  
SO UNLESS COUNCILLORS HAVE  
QUESTIONS ABOUT THOSE SPECIFIC  
SECTIONS, I SUGGEST WE MOVE THEM  
TO THE COUNCIL.  
WE HAVE A MOTION TO MOVE TO THE  
FULL CITY COUNCIL.  
THIS WILL END DISCUSSION ON  
THOSE SECTION NO DISCUSSION.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM.  
ABSENT.  
VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.  
AC ABSENT.  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR TONER.  
ABSENT.  
COUNCILLOR WILSON.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR ZUSY.  
YES.  
MAYOR SIMMONS.  
ABSENT.  
YOU HAVE FIVE MEMBERS RECORDED  
IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND FOUR  
RECORDED AS ABSENT.  
>> Chair Nolan: WE SHOULD BE  
ABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS AND  
SUFFICIENTLY PROVIDE THE COUNCIL  
WITH ENOUGH INFORMATION TO MAKE  
THE DETERMINATION OF PASSING THE  
REST OF THE BUDGET BY MEAN BUT  
IF IT TURNS OUT TO BE A LONGER  
DISCUSSION, AROUND 10:30 I'LL  
ASSESS THE GROUP AND DECIDE IF  
WE WANT TO CONTINUE THROUGH LUX  
OR TAKE A BREAK.

SO JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT  
PEOPLE UNDERSTOOD THAT'S THE  
DETERMINATION OF THE CHAIR IT'S  
LIKELY WE'LL GET THERE BUT WE  
CAN'T MAKE THAT DETERMINATION  
UNTIL WE GO THROUGH SOME OF THE  
DEPARTMENTS.

THE FIRST ONE FOR TODAY'S  
HEARING IS THE HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMISSION.

IT'S FOUND ON THE BUDGET BOOK  
SECTION V-151.

THIS IS UNDER THE HUMAN RESOURCE  
TAB IN THE BUDGET BOOK.

AND I WELCOME THE COMMISSIONER  
HERE IF YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE  
YOURSELF AND IF YOU HAVE ANY  
OPENING REMARKS, HAPPY TO HEAR  
THEM.

>> HI, I'M CRYSTAL ROSEA ACCESS  
MANAGER REPRESENTING THE ENTIRE  
DEPARTMENT.

I HAVE REMARKS BASED ON THE  
QUESTION RECEIVED FROM MAYOR  
SIMMONS.

I'LL TWO AHEAD AND READ THAT AND  
WHATEVER QUESTIONS, I'M HERE  
FOR.

THE RHETORIC AND POLICIES UNDER  
THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION IS  
LIKELY TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT  
THE CASES BROUGHT TO THE HUMAN  
RIGHTS COMMISSION.

WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN AN INCREASE  
IN OF DISCRIMINATION  
PARTICULARLY TO NATIONAL ORIGIN,  
RACE AND RELIGION.

IMMIGRATION STATUS IS NOT A  
PROTECTED CLASS BUT THE  
COMPLAINTS FALL UNDER NATIONAL  
ORIGIN AND RESTRICTS ACCESS AS A  
CIVIL RIGHT.

WE BELIEVE THAT THIS CLIMATE OF  
FEAR AND MARGINALIZATION MAY  
LEAD TO UNDER REPORTING  
ESPECIALLY UNDER UNDOCUMENTED  
INDIVIDUALS AND MIXED STATUS

FAMILIES.

TO MEET THE INCREASE IN DEMAND  
THE COMMISSION IS PROACTIVELY  
REVIEWING ITS INTAKE PROCEDURES,  
STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS WITH  
COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS  
AND PLANNING INTENTIONAL  
OUTREACH TO VULNERABLE  
COMMUNITIES.

WE HAVE FILED AND ACCEPTED MORE  
CASES TO MEET THE DEMAND OF OUR  
RESIDENTS THIS YEAR.

IN TERMS OF CAPACITY IN THE NEW  
FY26 BUDGET WE ADDED A PART-TIME  
PARALEGAL ATTORNEY WITH OUR  
PARTNERSHIP TO TAKE ON  
IMMIGRATION CASES IN CAMBRIDGE  
AND SUPPORT MORE DIRECTLY ON  
MATTERS SUCH AS FAMILY  
EMPLOYMENT BASED VISAS,  
NATURALIZATION AND DEPORTATION  
DEFENSE AND DACA.

WE FEEL CURRENT STAFFING LEVELS  
ARE ENOUGH FOR NOW BUT WILL  
CONSIDER SEEKING ADDITIONAL  
FUNDING NEXT FISCAL YEAR IF  
NEEDED.

OUR GOAL IS TO ENSURE EVERY  
RESIDENT REGARDLESS OF  
BACKGROUND OR STATUS FEELS SAFE  
COMING FORWARD AND WE HAVE TOOLS  
TO RESPOND SWIFTLY AND  
EFFECTIVELY.

WE HAVE CONDUCTED RIGHTS AND  
PARTNERED WITH THE COMMUNITY  
CENTER TO HOST TWO HYBRID WORK  
SHOPS AND OFFER INTERPRETATION  
IN 10 LANGUAGES.

WE CANNOT LOCATE ALL TRANSLATORS  
FOR ALL LANGUAGES SO WE  
TRANSLATED RESOURCES AND THEY'RE  
NOW HOSTED BY MIRA AND WE ARE  
WORKING ON COMPLETING VOICEOVERS  
OF THOSE PRESENTATIONS.

OVER THE COURSE OF THE TWO  
EVENTS THERE WERE OVER 1,000  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS PARTICIPATING

ONLINE AND 200 ADULT LEARNERS IN PERSON AS AUDIENCE.

WE'VE ALSO DONE MORE MANAGEABLE SIZED KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WITH THE EN ROUTE GROUP AT THE CAMBRIDGE GROUP AND HAD 50 ADOLESCENTS AND FOUR INTERPRETERS OFFERING INTERPRETATION IN HAITIAN, CREOLE AND SPANISH AND ONE IN THE LIBRARY WITH SATELLITE VIEWING AT THE LIBRARY AND ONE WITH THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM WITH FOUR SERVICE PROVIDERS WHERE THERE WERE HUNDREDS OF SERVICE PROVIDERS IN ATTENDANCE. IN THE COMING MONTHS WE'LL HAVE A NEW WELCOME POSTERS TO CELEBRATE THE LANGUAGE DIVERSITY AND WITH 30 LANGUAGES IN CAMBRIDGE THE POSTER STATES YOU ARE WELCOME HERE AND WOVEN TOGETHER WITH A QUILT LIKE DESIGN TO REFLECT THE CITY'S CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND HAS TEXT TO REMIND COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF THEIR RIGHT TO RECEIVE INFORMATION AND SERVICES OF THEIR PREFERRED LANGUAGE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

WE WILL REQUEST THE POSTER TO BE POSTED TO CONVEY SOLIDARITY. THROUGH THE OUTREACH WE HAVE INFORMED COMMUNITY MEMBERS DESPITE THE ADMINISTRATION'S VIEW ON HOUSING RIGHTS, THE COMMISSION REMAINS COMMITTED THAT THE FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE WHICH PROTECTS CAMBRIDGE RESIDENT REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

WE CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE COMPLAINT THOUGH HUD NO LONGER RECOGNIZES THE PROTECTED CLASSES UNDER THE HUD FAIR HOUSING ACT OR NO LONGER PAYS TO INVESTIGATE THE COMPLAINTS.

WE CONTINUE TO PARTNER WITH CITY  
DEPARTMENTS AND COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS WITH INFORMATION AND  
RESOURCE SHARING TO WORK  
STRATEGICALLY ACROSS ALL LEVELS  
AT THE CITIES AND STATE LEVEL  
AND ACROSS THE U.S.

I CAN NAME A BUDGE OF THESE IF  
YOU WANT BUT WE'LL SKIP THAT.  
WE'RE A SMALL BUT SCRAPPY  
DEPARTMENT.

ALL OUR COLLABORATIONS BUILD  
REFERRALS AND INFORM SERVICE  
PROVIDERS TO SUCCESSFULLY REACH  
OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

THANK YOU.

ROLL CALL FOR MAYOR SIMMONS.

>> Mayor Simmons: PRESENT.

THANK YOU FOR ANSWERING THE  
QUESTION.

>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR TONER.  
PRESENT.

>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU.  
THAT DID ANSWER YOUR QUESTION,  
MAYOR SIMMONS IN RESPONSE TO  
YOUR QUESTION BUT IF YOU WANT TO  
START US OFF DO YOU HAVE FURTHER  
ELABORATION OR FOLLOW-UP?

>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU,  
MADAME CHAIR.

FIRST OF ALL, GOOD MORNING AND  
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU  
FOR CONTINUING IN THIS ROLE  
WHICH I KNOW INCREDIBLY  
DIFFICULT NOW.

I DID HEAR YOU SAY THE  
GOVERNMENT NO LONGER PAYS.  
I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THAT  
BECAUSE AS THAT CONTINUES TO  
HAPPEN, I GUESS -- IT'S MORE TO  
THE CITY MANAGER AND LESS TO OUR  
DIRECTOR IS IF THE INCIDENTS OF  
XENOPHOBIA OR I.C.E. DECIDES  
THIS IS A PLACE THEY WANT TO  
HAVE THEIR VITRIOL, DO WE HAVE A  
WAY, CAN WE FIND THE FUNDS TO  
ENSURE WE MAY FORTIFY AND

ADDRESS AND PROTECT OUR  
RESIDENTS?

>> IS THERE COVERAGE FOR FOLKS  
FOR LEGAL SUPPORT AS WELL AS THE  
PROTECTION THROUGH THE CITY AS  
BEST WE CAN THROUGH POLICING.

>> THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN, I  
THINK WE'RE IN CONVERSATION WITH  
MANY OF THESE GROUPS AND AWARE  
THAT THERE'S VARIOUS LEVELS OF  
FEDERAL FUNDING AT RISK FOR  
THEM.

THE IDEA WE MAY BE IN A POSITION  
TO SUPPORT INCREASING  
AVAILABILITY OF LEGAL SERVICES,  
WE'RE PRETTY OPEN TO THAT  
ESPECIALLY WITH THE HIGH VOLUME  
OF NEED IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU,  
MR. CITY MANAGER, THROUGH YOU,  
MADAME CHAIR.

CERTAINLY A SCARY TIME.

LAST QUESTION, I SUSPECT WE'RE  
NOT THE ONLY CITY IN TOWN GOING  
THROUGH THIS.

HOW DO YOU START A COALITION OF  
COMMUNITY ARE FOLLOWING THIS  
THAT CAN PULL RESOURCES TO  
ADDRESS ANY PROBLEMS IF AS THEY  
BECOME GREATER.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN,  
YES, SO THERE MANY CONCURRENTLY  
HAPPENING.

WE HAVE THE METROPOLITAN AREA  
PLANNING COUNCIL THAT HAS A  
MUNICIPAL IMMIGRANT SERVICE  
NETWORK WE'RE PART OF AND  
ACTIVELY SUPPORT.

WE'RE ALSO PART OF THE MUNICIPAL  
LANGUAGE ACCESS ACROSS THE  
COUNTRY AND WE'RE MEMBERS OF  
WELCOMING AMERICA AND THE  
NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR  
AMERICANS.

THESE ALL HAVE ACTIVE MONTHLY  
MEETINGS WE ALL MEET TO

COLLABORATE AND RESOURCE SHARE.

>> Mayor Simmons: THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW.

AND LASTLY, YOU MAY NOT KNOW THIS, SOMEONE ADDRESSED IT TO THE CITY MANAGER, ORGANIZATIONS LIKE MMA AND MASC OR THE KINDS OF THINGS THEY DO TO LEND SUPPORT TO CITIES AND TOWNS FACING SHORTAGES OR BEING ASSAULTED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR THE ORGANIZATION WE'RE ENGAGED WITH HELPS PROVIDE SOME OF THE COORDINATION AND SPACE FOR HAVING THESE REGIONAL CONVERSATIONS.

THEY DON'T END UP REALLY FUNCTIONING AS FUNDING SOURCES SO THEY DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE THAT KIND OF RESOURCE BUT I THINK THEY HAVE A BIWEEKLY CALL WITH THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE AND SEE THE MAJOR COURT CASES AND THEN THEY'RE HELPFUL IN CONTINUING SOME OF THESE MORE TOPICAL CONVERSATIONS.

AS NEEDED, WE'LL VISUALLY SAY, HEY, WE SHOULD ALL MEET TOGETHER AND SHARE SOME INFORMATION AS WE'RE THINKING ABOUT A LOT OF COMMON CHALLENGES ACROSS COMMUNITIES.

>> Mayor Simmons: VERY GOOD. SCARY TIMES INDEED.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK, MADAME DIRECTOR. YOU HAVE THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

PLEASE KEEP US, THE COUNCIL, APPRISED OF WHAT'S GOING ON AND MAYBE THROUGH YOU, MADAME CHAIR TO THE CITY MANAGER YOU MAY WANT TO START GIVING IMMIGRATION UPDATES AT OUR MEETINGS AS APPROPRIATE.



MADAME CHAIR, THANK YOU.

I YIELD THE FLOOR.

>> Chair Nolan: ANY MEMBERS?

>> Clerk: VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.

>> PRESENT AND AUDIBLE.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU FOR JOINING, COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.

>> Councillor Siddiqui: THANK YOU FOR ALL THE WORK YOUR TEAM DOES.

IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT.

AS BE AN ATTORNEY IF THAT'S A POSSIBILITY WE NEED TO INCREASE CONTRACT FOR SERVICES.

I FULLY SUPPORT THAT.

LAST NIGHT WE RECEIVED AN E-MAIL IF THERE WILL BE MORE RIGHTS TRAININGS.

I KNOW THE WEBSITE HAS THE PRESENTATION AND VIDEO AND I SENT THAT LINK AND THE COMMISSIONER AND IT'S HELPFUL BUT I WAS CURIOUS IN THE NEXT THOUGH THERE'S MORE RELYING ON THE ORGANIZATIONS.

>> YES, WE WELCOME ALL AND WE KNOW THE COMMUNITY FEELS SAFE SHOWING UP IN THAT SPACE.

WHOMEVER IS LISTENING REACH OUT AT CAMBRIDGEMA.gov AND WE HAVE IN THE WORKS A KNOW YOUR RIGHTS THROUGH THE COMMISSIONER AND ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT AND WE'RE STILL FINALIZING THE DEAL ON THAT.

>> Councillor Siddiqui: GREAT, I WILL FORWARD THIS TO YOU.

THIS WAS FOR PARTICULARLY NANNIES AND OTHER DOMESTIC CHILDCARE WORKERS AND WHAT FOLKS ARE SEEING AND EXPERIENCING. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU.

I DO HAVE A QUESTION RELATED TO ALL THE WORK TO UNDERSTAND THE BUDGET THE CONTRACTS OR NEW INITIATIVES TO ENSURE THAT

YOU'RE SERVING OUR PEOPLE  
REFLECTED.

IS THAT THE REASON FOR THE OTHER  
ORDINARY MAINTENANCE?

BECAUSE THAT'S A SIGNIFICANT  
INCREASE FROM \$170,000 ALMOST  
TRIPLED.

I BELIEVE IT'S EMBEDDED IN THE  
DISCUSSION BUT INTERESTED IN  
HEARING.

>> YES, THROUGH YOU, CHAIRWOMAN,  
I'M VERY EXCITED THERE IS NO  
DEDICATED CITY FUNDING REFLECTED  
IN THE ACCOUNTING FY26 BUDGET.  
IT DOES REFLECT A PORTION OF  
WHAT WE NEED.

THE REST SUPPLEMENTS THE TOTAL  
AMOUNT NEEDED TO OPERATIONALIZE  
EVERYTHING WE DO AND WILL  
CONTINUE TO INCREASE AS THE  
FISCAL YEARS COME.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU, IT  
WAS AN INCREASE TO BETTER SERVE  
PEOPLE.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

>> Councillor Wilson: THANK YOU,  
THROUGH YOU CHAIR, I APPRECIATE  
THE WORK YOU HAVE BEEN DOING YOU  
AND YOUR TEAM.

THESE ARE UNPRECEDENTED TIME AND  
HAVE A COMMUNITY REALLY SCARED  
WITH THE UNCERTAINTIES OF WHAT'S  
HAPPENING ACROSS THE WORLD AND  
THE COUNTRY.

I APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS YOU AND  
YOUR TEAM ARE GOING.

>> Chair Nolan: WE CAN'T HEAR  
YOU.

I CAN BARELY HEAR YOU.

>> Councillor Wilson: I'M GOING  
TO TRY TO LOG OFF.

>> Chair Nolan: RIGHT NOW IS  
FINE.

>> Councillor Wilson: ALL RIGHT.  
THANK YOU.

SORRY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ALL CAUGHT

AND MISSED BUT THANK YOU FOR THE  
WORK THIS DEPARTMENT IS DOING  
FOR MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY AND  
ESPECIALLY IN COLLABORATION WITH  
OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

AND THE QUESTION IS A SMALL FTE  
CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE DIVERSITY  
OF THIS DEPARTMENT AND HOW  
REFLECTS THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

>> YES, THROUGH YOU, CHAIRWOMAN,  
I CAN TELL YOU FROM MY  
EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH  
COLLEAGUES, WE'RE ALL 90% PEOPLE  
OF COLOR, MOSTLY WOMEN AND TO  
ADD MORE DEPTH TO THE DIVERSITY  
QUESTION, MOST OF US ARE QUEER  
AND A COUPLE OF US ARE POLY TOO.  
S

>> Councillor Wilson: AND  
APOLOGIES FOR NOT BEING THERE IN  
PERSON BUT I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT  
AND THANK YOU AND I LOOK FORWARD  
TO SUPPORTING THE BUDGET.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU,  
COUNCILLOR WILSON.  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI MOVES THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF  
\$844,000 MOVE FORWARD WITH A  
FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION.  
DISCUSSION HAVING OCCURRED, ROLL  
CALL.

>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM.  
ABSENT.

VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.

YES.

COUNCILLOR NOLAN.

YES.

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.

YES.

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR TONER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

YES.

COUNCILLOR ZUSY.

YES.

MAYOR SIMMONS.

YES.

YOU HAVE EIGHT MEMBERS IN THE  
AFFIRMATIVE AND ONE ABSENT.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU.

NEXT UP AND AT THIS POINT WE'RE  
FOLLOWING THE LIST FOR OTHER  
DEPARTMENTS PER USUAL.

LIBRARY, WHICH IS ON THE BUDGET  
BOOK SECTION V-183.

SO V-183.

THIS IS A DEPARTMENT WITH THE  
PROJECTED BUDGET OF \$16.6  
MILLION AND FTEs WITH EIGHT AND  
THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES LISTED  
ON PAGE 184, REVIEW THE  
CIRCULATION AND MANY OTHER  
ELEMENTS OF HOW THE LIBRARY  
SYSTEM OPERATES.

HAPPY TO TURN IT OVER TO THE  
DIRECTOR.

WELCOME DIRECTOR MCCAULEY IF YOU  
WANT TO INTRODUCE YOUR TEAM OR  
HAVE AN OPENING STATEMENT, NOW'S  
THE TIME.

>> GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.

THROUGH YOU CHAIR.

I'M JOINED WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
JOY KIM AND LATRISHA PATWARDEN  
AND ONLINE IS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
ERIN WELLS.

WE LOOK TO INSPIRE MINDS AND  
EMPOWER COMMUNITY, OUR AMAZING  
AND DEDICATED STAFF WELCOMED  
OVER 960,000 VISITORS CIRCULATED  
OVER 1.8 MILLION ITEMS AND  
HOSTED OVER 3900 PUBLIC PROGRAMS  
WITH MANY PARTNERS ACROSS THE  
CITY INCLUDING MANY OF OUR  
DEPARTMENTS THIS PAST FISCAL  
YEAR.

I'LL LEAVE IT THERE AND OPEN TO  
QUESTIONS.

>> Chair Nolan: MY KIDS WERE  
REGULAR VISITORS OF THE  
BOUDREAU.

YOU'RE A BEACON IN THE CITY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK.  
I WANTED TO KNOW THE \$4.5  
MILLION FOR ORDINARY MAINTENANCE  
I ASSUME IT'S FOR THE PURCHASE  
OF BOOKS AND TECHNOLOGY AND  
OTHER THINGS BUT PLEASE LET ME  
KNOW.

>> THANK YOU.  
THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN, THAT  
IS CORRECT, YOU GOT IT.  
ACROSS OUR SEVEN LIBRARY  
LOCATIONS WE HAVE OUR  
COLLECTIONS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS  
BUT WE ALSO HAVE MAINTENANCE AND  
UTILITIES AND CLEANING FOR OUR  
SEVEN PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND WE  
ARE OPEN 350 HOURS PER WEEK  
ACROSS OUR LIBRARIES.  
SO AS MANY OF YOU COME IN, WE  
ALSO HAVE SO MANY COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS WHO ARE COMING IN  
DAYTIME, WEEKENDS AND IN OUR  
EVENINGS.  
AND THIS ALSO COVERS OUR  
MEMBERSHIP IN THE LIBRARY  
NETWORK.

> Councillor Zusy: INTERESTING.  
HOW MUCH DOES THAT COST?  
>> THROUGH YOU, I'M GOING TO ASK  
FOR THAT INFORMATION.  
WE'LL GET YOU THAT INFORMATION.  
> Councillor Zusy: THAT WOULD BE  
GREAT AND LOOKING AT THE BUDGET  
IT'S UP \$2.5 MILLION AND THE  
STAFF GREW FROM BUT WHY THE  
INCREASE?

>> THANK YOU FOR THE QUESTION.  
I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE  
ADDED POSITIONS THE TEAM  
LIBRARIAN AND DIGITAL EQUITY  
COORDINATOR.  
LAST YEAR THE FISCAL YEAR '24  
ACTUALS REFLECT SALARY SAVINGS  
DUE TO VACANCIES THE FISCAL YEAR  
AND ASIDE FROM THE TWO ADDED  
POSITIONS, THE BULK OF THE  
INCREASE IS DUE TO CONTRACTUAL

INCREASES SUCH AS THE NEW  
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT  
WITH CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY STAFF  
ASSOCIATION WE'RE ALL PLEASED  
WAS SETTLED IN JANUARY.

> Councillor Zusy: YEAH, THANK  
YOU.

GLAD THAT WAS RESOLVED.

THAT'S GREAT.

JUST TWO OTHER QUESTIONS.

I'VE EXPLORED THE HIVE AND I  
KNOW THAT'S A GREAT COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE.

I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HOW  
REGULARLY IT'S USED AND I LOVE  
YOUR DIGITAL EQUITY PROGRAM AND  
I WAS SURPRISED THAT THERE  
WASN'T -- THERE WEREN'T AS MANY  
PEOPLE BORROWING THINGS AS I  
THOUGHT THEY WERE DOING.

DID I MISUNDERSTAND THINGS?

I FEEL LIKE OFFERING EQUIPMENT,  
HOT SPOTS AND NOT iPADS BUT THE  
MICROSOFT EQUIVALENT ARE GREAT  
PROGRAMS.

>> THEY'RE BOTH EQUITY  
INITIATIVES AND IT'S AN  
INITIATIVE WITH THE CITY AND  
SCHOOLS AND OTHER NONPROFITS  
THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.  
AND LAST YEAR AND I CAN GIVE YOU  
MORE STATISTICS WE HAD 12,000  
PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN OUR  
PROGRAMS ACROSS THE BOARD.  
OUR DIGITAL EQUITY INITIATIVE  
FOCUSES ON OUR MOST VULNERABLE  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND THAT IS  
MUCH MORE ONE-ON-ONE AND SMALL  
GROUP SUPPORT AND THAT DOES  
PROVIDE BOTH ACCESS TO  
TECHNOLOGY AND SKILLS AND  
OPPORTUNITIES.  
WE WORK WITH THE HOUSING  
AUTHORITIES AND MANY OTHERS AND  
SINCE THE PROGRAM STARTED, 400  
SMALL GROUP AND ONE-ON-ONE  
CONSULTATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

> Councillor Zusy: THANK YOU.  
I THINK I EXPERIENCED OR I WAS  
THERE FOR THE PRESENTATION ABOUT  
THE DIGITAL EQUITY PROGRAM AT  
YOUR LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST.  
ANY WAY, I THINK IT'S A  
FANTASTIC PROGRAM IN THE  
LIBRARY.  
IT'S A GOOD ORGANIZATION TO HOST  
THAT.  
THANK YOU AND I YIELD.  
>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU,  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.  
>> Councillor Siddiqui: THANK  
YOU.  
LOTS OF LUCK FROM TO THE LIBRARY  
AND THANK YOU ALL FOR THE  
LIBRARY.  
I HAVE A QUICK QUESTION AND I'M  
SORRY I DIDN'T SEND THIS AND  
THINK MAYBE IT'S IN THE  
PERSONNEL SHEET.  
IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THE BUDGET  
ALSO FUNDS SOCIAL WORKERS?  
>> CORRECT.  
THROUGH YOU, CHAIRWOMAN, WE HAVE  
ONE SOCIAL WORKER AND THEY HAVE  
INTERNS OFTEN.  
>> Councillor Siddiqui: THANK  
YOU.  
I ASK BECAUSE SAID THE LIBRARY  
SOCCER WORK TEAM.  
I FELT THERE WAS JUST ONE BUT  
WANTED TO CLARIFY.  
I THINK THAT'S ALL I HAVE AND I  
THANK YOU.  
>> Chair Nolan: ANY OTHER  
QUESTIONS?  
JUST ONE, AS YOU THINK THROUGH  
AND MAYBE THIS IS THE REPORT THE  
USE OF THE VARIOUS BRANCH  
LIBRARIES AND HOW THEY ALLOCATE  
WHERE EVENTS AND USAGE HAPPENS,  
DO WE HAVE THAT INFORMATION  
SOMEWHERE?  
BROKEN DOWN BY BRANCH AND NAME.  
>> WE DO AND WE CAN SEND YOU

MORE INFORMATION BUT ABOUT HALF  
THE ATTENDANTS GOES NOT  
LIBRARIES.

>> Chair Nolan: JUST FOR PEOPLE  
ONE OF THE QUESTIONS WE'VE  
GOTTEN IS THE STATUS OF THE  
COLLINS BRANCH, RIGHT?  
I KNOW THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS ARE  
EAGER FOR THAT.  
THOSE ARE MY ONLY QUESTIONS.  
COUNCILLOR WILSON DID YOU HAVE A  
QUESTION?

>> Councillor Wilson: YES, THANK  
YOU AND THANK YOU TO THE LIBRARY  
FOR THE WORK YOU DO.  
WHILE HAVE YOU A WONDERFUL  
DEPARTMENT, OVER 60 EMPLOYEES,  
I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THE DIVERSITY  
AND IF YOU CAN SPEAK TO THE  
MAKEUP OF THE DEPARTMENT AND  
LEADERSHIP.

>> SURE, THROUGH YOU, CHAIRWOMAN  
IF YOU HOW TO FOR THE QUESTION.  
WE'RE 39% PEOPLE OF COLORS.  
THAT'S WITH MULTI-RACIAL  
SELF-IDENTIFICATION, 60% WHITE.  
THE BREAKDOWN IS 18% BLACK, 9%  
ASIAN, 7% MULTIRACIAL, 1%  
NON-SPECIFIED AND 5% IDENTIFIED  
AS HISPANIC OR LATINX.  
6: WITH OUR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS  
WE HAVE 19% ASIAN, 5% BLACK, 5%  
LATINX AND 5% MULTIRACIAL AND  
62% WHITE.  
THAT'S ACROSS OUR WHOLE LIBRARY  
LEADERSHIP INCLUDING THE  
BRANCHES.

WE HAVE A STRATEGY AND WORK  
REALLY HARD TO RECRUIT AND HIRE  
AND PROMOTE A DIVERSE WORKFORCE  
IN A TRADITIONALLY NON-DIVERSE  
FIELD.

SO SOME OF THE OUTREACH  
STRATEGIES INCLUDE RECRUITING  
FROM WORKING WITH THE OFFICE OF  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUITY  
AND INCLUSION ON STRATEGIES TO



REACH UNDER REPRESENTED GROUPS  
AND WE'RE STILL WORKING ON THIS  
BUT THINK WE HAVE MADE SOME  
STRIDES.

>> Councillor Wilson: WONDERFUL.  
PROBABLY ONE OF YOUR NEW  
EMPLOYEES IS A GRADUATE OF  
CAMBRIDGE WORKS SO GREAT TO SEE  
HIM TURN THAT PROFESSION.  
DO YOU HAVE MALE TO FEMALE DATA?  
>> WE CAN GET THAT DATA FOR YOU.  
THANKS.

>> Councillor Wilson: MUCH  
APPRECIATED.  
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.  
I YIELD THE FLOOR.

>> Chair Nolan: THANKS SO MUCH.  
ANY OTHER QUESTIONS FOR THE  
LIBRARY DEPARTMENT?  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK.  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI MOVES WE  
MOVE THE LIBRARY BUDGET OF \$15.6  
MILLION TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL  
OF WITH A FAVORABLE  
RECOMMENDATION.  
DISCUSSION HAVING OCCURRED, ROLL  
CALL.

>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM.  
ABSENT.

VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.

YES.

COUNCILLOR NOLAN.

YES.

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.

YES.

SOBRINHO-WHEELER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR TONER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

YES.

COUNCILLOR ZUSY.

YES.

MAYOR SIMMONS.

ABSENT.

YOU HAVE SEVEN MEMBERS RECORDED  
IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND WHO

RECORDED AS ABSENT.  
>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR WORK AND KEEPING THE  
PROGRAMS ACTIVE, WELL ATTENDED  
AND INFORMATIVE.  
NEXT UP IS VETERANS SERVICES.  
THIS IS ON V-187.  
SO V-187.  
THIS IS DEPARTMENT BUDGET OF  
\$1.2 MILLION WITH FIVE FTES.  
>> Mayor Simmons: YES, APOLOGIES  
ON THE LAST VOTE.  
I HAD TO STEP AWAY.  
>> Clerk: MAYOR SIMMONS IS  
RECORDED AS YET ON THE PRIOR  
VOTE.  
>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU.  
I NOTICED SOMEONE SIGNED UP FOR  
PUBLIC COMMENT WE'LL HAVE IT AT  
11:30 OR BEFORE BREAK AND IF  
THAT PERSON CAN'T STAY UNTIL  
THEN THEY SHOULD ALERT SOMEONE  
TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT.  
ALL RIGHT.  
HERE WE ARE.  
I'LL TURN IT OVER TO STAFF IF  
YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF  
AND HAVE ANY OPENING REMARKS,  
NOW'S THE TIME.  
>> GOOD MORNING I'M ACTING  
DIRECTOR CYNTHIA SHELTON HARRIS.  
THE STAFF IS HERMAN SANCHEZ, AND  
WE HAVE ONE REMOTE AND JOHN DAY  
IS REMOTE.  
WE HAVE TWO PART-TIMERS.  
ONE IS ANNA IN THE OFFICE AND  
JUDY A RETIREE IS NOT ON DUTY  
TODAY.  
I HAVE A SLIGHT STATEMENT ORDER  
OF MAGNITUDE WHICH WILL  
HOPEFULLY ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS  
I HEARD YESTERDAY.  
WE HAVE 10 PURPLE HEART SIGNS --  
>> Chair Nolan: CAN YOU PULL IT  
CLOSER.  
>> IS THAT BETTER?  
>> Chair Nolan: YES.

>> WE HAVE 10 PURPLE HEART CITY  
SIGNS WITH AN ESTIMATED THREE TO  
FOUR REVIEWED FOR PLACEMENT  
LATER THIS YEAR POSSIBLY  
STRADDLING THE FISCAL YEARS.  
TWO DISPOSAL BOXES FOR FLAGS NO  
LONGER SERVICEABLE AND ONE AT  
THE CEMETERY AND CITY HALL AND  
WE COMMITTED TO HOSTING EVENTS  
TO DEMONSTRATE THE DIVERSITY OF  
INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED AND  
IMPACTED DURING THE TIME.  
WE HOSTED A BLACK HISTORY EVENT  
WITH A REENACTMENT WITH THE STAR  
ACTOR A FEMALE NAVY VETERAN.  
WE HAVE WOMEN'S VETERANS DAY  
WHICH IS JUNE 12, NOT NOVEMBER  
11.

WE HAVE A MOVIE NIGHT.  
JUNE 14 WE'RE DOING A 250th  
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF THE ARMY  
AS GENERAL WASHINGTON TOOK  
COMMAND HERE IN CAMBRIDGE.  
I LISTED OUR STAFFING.  
60% ARE PERSONS OF COLOR AND 20%  
WILL FEMALE IN PERMANENT  
POSITIONS AND OUR CENSUS NUMBERS  
STATE CAMBRIDGE HAS 1,071  
VETERANS AND OF THOSE 525 HAVE  
RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR V.A.  
COMPENSATION.

AND 136 ARE FEMALE VETERANS.  
WE DO NOT KNOW FOR A FACT THE  
CENSUS OF 78 AT HARVARD AND 68  
AT M.I.T. AND 50 VETERANS  
RECEIVED A STATE SUBSIDIZED  
ASSISTANCE FROM OUR DEPARTMENT.  
THANK YOU.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU.  
IS WE WANT TO CLARIFY  
LEADERSHIP.

[INDISCERNIBLE]

>> WE HAVE BOTH.

>> Chair Nolan: NOW ON TO  
QUESTIONS FROM THE COUNCIL.  
MAYOR SIMMONS.

>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU,  
MADAME CHAIR.  
I CAME ON A LITTLE BIT LATE SO I  
GOT THE TAIL END OF WHAT YOU  
WERE SAYING.  
SHOULD I REFER TO YOU AS ACTING  
DIRECTOR?  
WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT TITLE?  
IS  
>> MY BUSINESS CARDS SAY ACTING  
DIRECTOR.  
>> Mayor Simmons: VERY GOOD,  
I'LL ASSUME THAT'S THE CASE.  
I TRY TO BE ABOUT PURPOSEFUL AND  
INTENTIONAL ABOUT REGARDING  
PEOPLE FOR THEIR APPROPRIATE  
TITLE.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE AND  
FOR WHAT YOU AND THE VETERANS  
SERVICES DEPARTMENT DOES.  
LET ME ACKNOWLEDGE THE AMOUNT OF  
WORK YOU'VE BEEN DOING  
PARTICULARLY FOR WOMEN VETERANS.  
WE'VE ALWAYS HAD A ROBUST  
WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT BUT WOMEN FOR  
WHATEVER REASON SEEM TO BE  
OVERLOOKED SO I WANT TO  
ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORK YOUR DOING  
TOWARD MAKING SURE WOMEN ARE  
LIFTED UP.  
SPECIFIC TO THAT, I'M JUST  
CURIOUS BECAUSE YOU FOCUSSED  
RIGHTFULLY SO ON WOMEN AND  
VETERANS NOT TO BE DISADVANTAGED  
TO MEN BUT WOMEN OVERLOOKED, CAN  
YOU SAY OR FEEL COMFORTABLE  
SAYING ARE YOU STAFFED  
ADEQUATELY TO ADDRESS THE WOMEN  
NEEDS?  
NOW, I KNOW YOUR STAFF WELL AND  
CAN LIFT THEM ALL UP AND SAY  
THEY'RE DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB  
SO NOT TO SAY THE CURRENT STAFF  
ISN'T DOING A GOOD JOB BUT I DO  
KNOW SOMETIMES THE NEEDS OF  
WOMEN ARE BETTER SERVED BY A  
WOMEN AND DO YOU HAVE ADEQUATE

STAFF TO SERVICE THE NEEDS OF  
WOMEN AND SECOND, THIS JOB IS  
HARD, IS THERE SUFFICIENT MONEY  
IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
BUDGET FOR TRAINING BECAUSE I DO  
KNOW THAT WOMEN COME WITH  
DIFFERENT STAGES OF PTSD THAT  
DOESN'T GO AWAY AND OTHER SOCIO  
EMOTIONAL NEEDS AND IT'S  
IMPORTANT AS A DAUGHTER OF A  
NAVY MAN.

I WANT TO MAKE SURE THERE IS AND  
IS THERE ENOUGH FUNDS OF  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, SO  
THEY'RE MEETING THE DIVERSE  
NEEDS OF YOUR STAFF SO THEY CAN  
DO THEIR BEST JOB.

>> THE FUNDING FOR STAFF IS  
ADEQUATE AND HAVE ENOUGH STAFF  
TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF OUR  
FEMALE VETERANS OR ANY VETERAN  
SUFFERING OR LIVING WITH PTS.  
IT'S NO LONGER KNOWN AS PTSD  
BECAUSE IT'S NOT A DISORDER.  
IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU QUOTE,  
UNQUOTE, CATCH.

CURRENTLY WE HAVE ENOUGH  
STAFFING AND ENOUGH IN OUR  
TRAINING BUDGET AND THE REASON  
FOR THAT IS WE HAVE AND TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF THINGS AND HARVARD  
INVITES US TO STAFF AND WE'RE  
INVITED AND TAKE PART IN ALL  
OVER THE STATE.

>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU,  
MADAME DIRECTOR.

AND WE KNOW WE'RE UNDER THE DARK  
CLOUD OF FEDERAL FUNDING AND HAS  
IT HAS AN IMPACT ON YOUR  
DEPARTMENT.

>> THROUGH YOU, MADAME MAYOR,  
IT'S NOT HAD A SIGNIFICANT  
IMPACT BECAUSE WE WERE FUNDED  
DUE TO THE PRIOR  
ADMINISTRATION'S ACTIONS.  
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE  
WILL HOLD.

EVERYONE HAS SEEN THE NEWS OF  
THE CUTTING OF FEDERAL STAFFING.  
30% OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS ARE  
VETERANS HERE IN CAMBRIDGE.  
THAT'S HAD AN IMPACT.  
MASSACHUSETTS BECAUSE WE LEAD  
THE NATION IN THINKING AHEAD OF  
THINGS.

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF VETERANS  
SERVICES HAD ALREADY CLEARED THE  
WAY FOR US TO BE ABLE TO ASSIST  
THEM WITHOUT SOME OF THE  
PAPERWORK THAT YOU WOULD NEED TO  
PROVE A PERSON IS UNEMPLOYED.

>> Mayor Simmons: THAT'S GOOD.  
LET US KNOW WHAT WE CAN DO AS A  
COUNCIL SHOULD YOU HAVE SOME  
TRYING TIME AROUND FUNDING FOR  
SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN.  
THEY'RE ONE OF A SPECIAL CLASS  
OF PEOPLE AS I KNOW AND I'M SURE  
MY COLLEAGUES AGREE THAT WE KNOW  
FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.  
MEN AND WOMEN HAVE GIVEN THEIR  
LIVES TO ENSURE WE CAN MOVE  
AROUND MASSACHUSETTS AND  
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY ENJOYING  
A LEVEL OF FREEDOM SO PLEASE LET  
US KNOW IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU  
CAN SEE ON THE HORIZON SO WE CAN  
BE NOT ONLY FOREWARNED BUT  
FOREARMED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.  
MADAME CHAIR, I YIELD THE FLOOR.

> Councillor Zusy: THE STATE  
DISPERSES MONEY AND DO  
MUNICIPALITIES HAVE A VETERAN  
SERVICE DEPARTMENT?

I DON'T KNOW.

>> THROUGH YOU, MADAME CHAIR AND  
TO YOU, COUNCILLOR ZUSY, YES.  
I CAME EQUIPPED WITH INFORMATION  
I WILL LEAVE FOR THOSE WHO DO  
NOT KNOW ABOUT US AND WHAT WE  
DO.

THIS IS THE FEDERAL BINDER.  
TWO, I CAME EQUIPPED WITH AN

INVITATION WE ARE AT 51 LENDEN STREET AND ON THE SECOND FLOOR AND ANSWER THE PHONE FIVE DAYS A WEEK AND I DO SOMETIMES ON THE WEEKENDS.

COME VISIT US.

WE DO MORE THAN I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT IN THE TIME I HAVE.

THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS AFTER THE CIVIL WAR STARTED MASS GENERAL LAW CHAPTER 115 WHICH FALLS UNDERNEATH THE CMR108.

THERE'S STATE FUNDING FOR INDIGENT VETERANS.

WHAT WE DO IN OUR OFFICE AND MOST OTHER OFFICES AROUND THE STRAIGHT IS TRY TO ASSIST THAT INDIVIDUAL OR WIDOWER OF THE VETERAN TO RECEIVE FEDERAL MONEY.

THE MONEY FROM THE STATE IS RIGID.

THERE'S A LOT OF GUARDRAILS THERE AND THEREFORE A PERSON HAS TO BE HELD IN POVERTY, NOT SOMETHING -- HAVING LIVED EXPERIENCE WITH THAT SOCIOECONOMIC DEMOGRAPHIC IS NOT SOMETHING WE WANT TO DO TO A PERSON AND WORK HARD TO ENSURE THEY GET FEDERAL MONEY BECAUSE ONCE THEY GOT IT, USUALLY THEY HAVE IT FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIFE.

> Councillor Zusy: THANK YOU SO MUCH BUT MY QUESTION WAS DO MOST MUNICIPALITIES --

>> EVERY MUNICIPALITY.

SORRY TO INTERRUPT.

> Councillor Zusy:

> Councillor Zusy: THEY HAVE VETERANS SERVICES.

>> THE CIVIL WAR ENACTED ALL CITIES AND TOWNS WOULD HAVE A VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER IN BOSTON, SPRINGFIELD, CAMBRIDGE, OTHERS.

> Councillor Zusy: FASCINATING.  
THANK YOU SO MUCH AND THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SERVICE.  
>> CAN YOU'RE VERY WELCOME.  
>> Chair Nolan: ANY OTHER  
QUESTIONS?  
VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.  
>> Vice Mayor McGovern: THANK  
YOU, MADAME CHAIR, THROUGH YOU  
AND THANK YOU ACTING DIRECTOR  
HARRIS AND TO YOUR STAFF.  
TWO THINGS, DO YOU WANT TO TALK  
A LITTLE BIT ABOUT SOME OF THE  
WORK YOU'RE DOING WITH OUR  
UNHOUSED VETERANS AND DOESN'T  
KNOW IF YOU WANTED TO MAKE A  
PLUG FOR MEMORIAL DAY.  
>> THANK YOU, TO YOU, THROUGH  
YOU VICE MAYOR, SORRY, I DON'T  
DO THAT VERY WELL.  
YES, WE HAVE A WEEKLY MEETINGS  
WITH OUR COLLEAGUES AT THE  
MULTISERVICE CENTER COORDINATED  
BY HANNAH.  
SO WE HAVE A WEEKLY MEETING  
WHERE WE DISCUSS UNHOUSED  
VETERANS IN OR AROUND THE CITY  
OF CAMBRIDGE.  
VERY FEW ARE FROM CAMBRIDGE AND  
WORK DILIGENTLY TO GET THEM  
HOUSED OR KEPT THEM PLACED UNTIL  
WE CAN GET PERMANENT HOUSING.  
AS MAYOR SIMMONS ALLUDED TO  
THERE IS A VERY COMPLEX WEB OF  
ISSUES INVOLVING VETERANS IN  
GENERAL AND THOSE UNHOUSED.  
THE WEB GETS A LOT LARGER.  
WE WORK WITH EVERYBODY FROM THE  
FEDS TO LOCAL NONPROFIT TO  
GETTING INDIVIDUALS HOUSED.  
THIS YEAR WE HAVE PERMANENTLY  
HOUSED SIX INDIVIDUALS THIS  
FISCAL YEAR.  
SIX INDIVIDUALS HERE IN THE CITY  
OF CAMBRIDGE AND MEMORIAL DAY  
DAY WEEKEND IS FAST APPROACHING.  
WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU SATURDAY



DOING THE DECORATION OF THE GRAVES IN CAMBRIDGE CEMETERY AND WE DO A MARITIME SERVICE AT THE POST AND MEMORIAL DAY WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK HERE BUT AT CAMBRIDGE COMMONS.

IT WILL START WITH A CEREMONY AND BLOSSOM INTO A CELEBRATION BECAUSE WHAT'S THE POINT OF FREEDOMS IF YOU DON'T ENJOY THEM.

>> THANK YOU.

>> YOU'RE WELCOME, SIR.

>> Mayor Simmons: VICE MAYOR McGOVERN DO YOU YIELD.

>> Vice Mayor McGovern: I YIELD.

>> Chair Nolan: AND THANK YOU FOR ASKING THE QUESTION BECAUSE VETERANS ARE UNDER REPRESENTED AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK ON THESE ISSUES, VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

>> Councillor Wilson: YES, THANK YOU DIRECTOR HARRIS FOR YOUR SERVICE, YOUR WORK AND DEPARTMENT'S WORK AND SERVICE. MY QUESTION IS AROUND WHILE THE VICE MAYOR SPOKE TO MEMORIAL DAY CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE 250 ARMY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND FUNDING OR BUDGETARY NEEDS FOR THAT EVENT, PLEASE?

THANK YOU.

>> THROUGH YOU, MADAME CHAIR AND TO YOU, COUNCILLOR WILSON, THE ARMY'S 250th BIRTHDAY WILL BE JUNE 14, ALSO KNOWN AS FLAG DAY TO SOME INDIVIDUALS.

WE WILL HAVE A GUEST SPEAKER.

WE'LL DEFINITELY HAVE SEVERAL LOCAL VENDORS.

WE'VE DONE A GREAT DEAL TO MAKE SURE THE VENDORS ARE EITHER CAMBRIDGE INDIVIDUALS OR CAMBRIDGE ADJACENT.

WE'VE ALSO DONE A GREAT DEAL TO ENSURE EVERYONE COVERS THE GAMUT OF DEI.

WE'LL CELEBRATE WHEN GENERAL WASHINGTON TOOK COMMAND IN THE CAMBRIDGE COMMON.

I CAN'T VERIFY THE TREE IS STILL THERE.

WE'RE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE AND WE'RE UTILIZING SOME FUNDS AND WE COULD UTILIZE ADDITIONAL FUNDING BUT WE HAVE SUPPLEMENTAL REQUESTING.

IT IS BEING REVIEWED.

YOU'LL SEE IT SOON.

WE'RE BASICALLY MOVING MONEY AROUND A LITTLE BIT BUT ARE CONFIDENT YOU'LL HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED AND YOU'LL RECEIVE YOUR INVITATION.

OR ALREADY RECEIVED THEM THROUGH YOUR E-MAIL.

THANK YOU.

>> GREAT, THANK YOU.

IS

>> Councillor Wilson: MY NEXT QUESTION IS AROUND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE NEEDS FOR ALL VETERANS AN THOSE WHO COME THROUGH YOUR DEPARTMENT.

WHO DO YOU ALL PARTNER WITH AND MIGHT THERE BE A NEED FOR CAN DIRECTOR AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED THROUGH YOUR DEPARTMENT FOR THOSE WHO YOU SERVE.

>> THROUGH YOU MADAME CHAIR AND COUNCILLOR WILSON.

WE PARTNER V.A. BUT SOME VETERANS DON'T UTILIZE THE V.A. OR CAN'T DUE TO CHARACTER OF SERVICE OR DISCHARGE PAPERWORK. IF THEY CANNOT USE THE V.A. WE UTILIZE THE CENTER WHICH IS ALSO FUNDED BY THE V.A.

WE HAVE A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH HOME BASE WHICH WILL TAKE

INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF  
DISCHARGE AND THERE ARE SEVERAL  
NONPROFIT PROGRAMS.  
AND IN IMMEDIATE SITUATIONS  
UTILIZE OUR SERVICES IN  
CAMBRIDGE.

I KNOW SEVERAL OF THE PEOPLE  
FROM THE CARE TEAM WE WORK  
CLOSELY WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
AT SEVERAL ARE VETERANS AND SAME  
FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

>> Councillor Wilson: SORRY, I  
WAS MUTED.

THANK YOU FOR THAT AND THE WORK  
AND COLLABORATION.

I HAVE A DIRECT QUESTION IN  
REGARDS TO THE AND THIS IS IN  
REGARDS TO THE ACTING TITLE IF  
YOU CAN SPEAK TO HOW LONG IT'S  
BEEN ENACTED AND WHAT ARE THE  
PLANS FOR THE POSITION TO BECOME  
PERMANENT?

>> THROUGH YOU CHAIR, WE ARE  
HOPING TO RESOLVE IT.

WE DON'T HAVE AN UPDATE AT THIS  
TIME.

>> Councillor Wilson: DO YOU  
THINK IT'S SOMETHING WE'LL SEE  
IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS OR  
NOT SURE?

>> THROUGH YOU CHAIR, I HOPE SO  
BUT NOT CERTAIN.

>> Chair Nolan: I THINK THE  
ANSWER IS WE DON'T KNOW.

>> Councillor Wilson: ALL RIGHT.  
THANK YOU FOR THAT.

WITH THAT I YIELD.

THANKS.

>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU.  
ANY OTHER QUESTIONS FROM THE  
BODY?

ALL RIGHT.

I'LL TAKE YOU UP ON THE OFFER  
AND WE'LL MOVE TO EVENTS AND I  
APPRECIATE THE WORK AND WE CAN  
MOVE THIS FORWARD BY COUNCILLOR  
ZUSY MOVES THE VETERANS SERVICES

BUDGET OF \$1.2 MILLION FORWARD  
TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL WITH A  
FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION.  
DISCUSSION HAVING OCCURRED, ROLL  
CALL.

>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM.

ABSENT.

VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.

YES.

COUNCILLOR NOLAN.

YES.

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.

YES.

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR TONER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

YES.

COUNCILLOR ZUSY.

YES.

MAYOR SIMMONS.

YES.

YOU HAVE EIGHT MEMBERS RECORDED  
IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND ONE  
RECORDED AS ABSENT.

>> Chair Nolan: AGAIN, THANK  
YOU, ACTING DIRECTOR HARRIS FOR  
YOUR WORK AND WHOLE TEAM ON OUR  
BEHALF.

NEXT UP, I WANT TO TAKE A SENSE  
AND WE HAVE TRANSPORTATION,  
WHICH IS A VERY LARGE DEPARTMENT  
WITH LOTS OF INITIATIVES.

THEN WE'LL DO THE SHEET AND I  
EXPECT A COUPLE CLARIFYING  
QUESTIONS FOR STATE FUNDING FOR  
A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS AND NWRA  
WE'LL DO WATER AT THE SAME TIME  
AND THEY'RE DEPARTMENTS THAT GO  
TOGETHER AND SCHEDULED TO BE  
HERE ANYWAY SO WE DID NOT TALK  
ABOUT IT AND END WITH PUBLIC  
INVESTMENTS.

I DO THINK WE CAN GET THROUGH  
THIS IF NOT BY NOON OR 1:00 SO I  
DO NOT PLAN TO BREAK FOR LUNCH.

WE'LL MAKE THAT DETERMINATION  
BUT IF WE NEED IT WE CAN GET A  
10 MINUTE BREAK AND IS THAT THE  
SENSE OF THE BODY WE WANT TO GET  
THIS DONE WITHOUT A LUNCH BREAK?  
I DON'T WANT TO GIVE SHORT TO  
ANY DISCUSSION BUT IT'S 10:00.  
I THINK WE'RE CLOSE TO AN HOUR  
FOR THE TWO MAJOR DISCUSSION  
ITEMS AND THEN SOME OTHERS.  
I THINK WE CAN GET THROUGH IT  
BUT IF THERE'S ANY OBJECTION TO  
THAT EVER EVOLVING PLAN?  
ALL RIGHT.

THEN LET'S MOVE FORWARD WITH  
TRANSPORTATION AND THE TEAM.  
THIS IS ON THE BUDGET BOOK V-93.  
IT'S A DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET OF  
JUST TO CLARIFY, SINCE THE WATER  
DEPARTMENT WILL BE HERE FOR  
NDWRA IS WHEN WE'LL SEE THE  
WATER DEPARTMENT AND THEY  
NODDED.

AND THE BUDGET OF TRANSPORTATION  
IS \$14 MILLION.  
93 FTEs.

THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENT ARE  
ADMINISTRATION, PARKING  
MANAGEMENT, STREET MANAGEMENT  
AND I THINK IT'S NOT  
CONTROVERSIAL AT ALL.  
MEANING, OF COURSE THIS IS THE  
LOCUS OF MANY DISCUSSIONS THAT  
HAVE HAPPENED IN THE CHAMBER.  
RIGHTFULLY SO BECAUSE  
TRANSPORTATION IS A KEY ELEMENT  
OF HOW THE CITY FUNCTIONS.  
FOR PEOPLE TO GET ACROSS THE  
CITY, TRAFFIC, PARKING AND  
TRANSPORTATION THE OLD TITLE  
ROLLED OUT THE DISCUSSIONS THAT  
HAPPEN ACROSS THE CITY PRETTY  
MUCH EVERY DAY.  
SO COMMISSIONER, McKENNA, IF YOU  
WANT TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND  
YOUR TEAM AND IF YOU HAVE  
OPENING REMARKS, NOW'S THE TIME.

>> THANK YOU.  
THROUGH YOU, MADAME CHAIR.  
I'M THE TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSIONER BROOK McKENNA AND  
JOINED STARTING AT LEFT, JEFF  
STREET MANAGEMENT AND STEPHANIE  
GRAVES FOR TRANSPORTATIONAL  
PLANNING AND TO MY RIGHT,  
STEPHANIE McCULLOUGH ISN'T  
MANAGER.  
I DON'T HAVE OPENING REMARKS.  
READY FOR QUESTIONS.  
>> Chair Nolan: FOR  
TRANSPORTATION, WHO WANTS TO  
START US OFF.  
COUNCILLOR ZUSY.  
> Councillor Zusy: THROUGH YOU  
CHAIR.  
GREAT TO SEE YOU AGAIN.  
I ASKED SOME OF MY QUESTIONS  
WHEN YOU WERE HERE YESTERDAY.  
SO HOW MANY PROJECTS DO YOU  
DELEGATE TO CONSULTANTS VERSUS  
IN HOUSE?  
I KNOW MUCH OF YOUR \$5.4 MILLION  
IN ORDINARY MAINTENANCE GOES TO  
CONSULTANTS BUT CAN YOU TALK  
ABOUT THE DIVISION OF LABOR?  
>> SO OUR O.M. BUDGET COVERS  
EVERYTHING NOT PERSONNEL OR  
CAPITAL.  
THE VAST MAJORITY GOES TO OUR  
LARGEST FUNCTIONAL AREAS AND  
THAT INCLUDES OUR CONTRACTS TO  
MANAGE THE FIRST STREET AND MAIN  
STREET GARAGES.  
THE PARKING MANAGEMENT  
INFORMATION SYSTEM.  
THIS SYSTEM MANAGES EVERYTHING  
AROUND PARK MONTREAL CITY SO  
ENFORCEMENT, RESIDENT PARKING  
PERMITS AND PARKING TICKET  
ADJUDICATION AND PAYMENT.  
ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT PORTION IS  
OUR PAVING MARKINGS.  
PAVEMENT MARKING CONTRACTS WHEN  
WE DO PROJECTS AND REGULAR

MAINTENANCE OF MARKINGS ACROSS  
THE CITY.

ANOTHER CONTRACT FOR OUR TRAFFIC  
SIGNAL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR.

ANOTHER LARGE CONTRACT FOR OUR  
METER REVENUE FOR COIN COUNTING  
AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR  
CONSULTANT SUPPORT ON OUR STREET  
DESIGN AND OTHER PROJECTS.

A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK WE  
DO IN THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT  
PROJECT BASED.

WE DO ALL OF OUR OPERATIONAL  
WORK IN-HOUSE AND THEN WE HAVE  
CONTRACT AND CONSULTANT SUPPORT  
ON CERTAIN PROJECTS.

ESPECIALLY AROUND THE I.T.  
SYSTEMS AND SPECIALIZED  
EQUIPMENT THAT WOULDN'T MAKE  
SENSE TO HAVE IN HOUSE.

> Councillor Zusy: ONE OF THE  
THINGS I HAVE LEARNED IS AGAIN  
YOU ARE CENTRAL TO ALL OF OUR  
LIVES.

I HAD NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH  
PEOPLE CARED ABOUT  
TRANSPORTATION UNTIL I ENTERED  
THE HALL EIGHT MONTHS AGO AND  
IT'S AN HONOR TO BE  
COLLABORATING WITH YOU AS HEAD  
OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.  
I KNOW THERE WOULD BE NEW  
SOFTWARE FOR PARKING.

>> WE SIGNED A NEW CONTRACT FOR  
A PARKING INFORMATION SYSTEMS.  
WE ASKED FOR FUNCTIONALITY TO DO  
PERMIT PRICING.

WE JUST KICKED OFF THE NEW  
CONTRACT BUT WE'RE ALREADY  
WORKING HARD WITH THE VENDOR TO  
DEVELOP THE FUNCTIONALITY.  
WE'RE STILL WHETHER WE'LL BE  
ABLE TO DELIVER FOR THE UPCOMING  
SEASON AND WHETHER IT WILL HAVE  
TO BE THE SEASON AFTER THAT BUT  
IT'S WELL UNDERWAY.

>> I THINK IT COULD BE A GOOD

SOURCE OF REVENUE FOR THE CITY  
AND MEANS TESTS.

I HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR NUMBERS  
LIKE A CENSUS OF OFF STREET  
PARKING PLACES IN THE CITY.

I JUST WONDERED HAVE YOU MADE  
PROGRESS UNDERSTANDING I FEEL AS  
THOUGH WHAT WE KEEP HEARING TRAT  
THERE'S FEWER PLACE TO PARK AND  
HA THERE BEEN AN EFFORT TO DO AN  
INVENTORY OF PARKING AND I KNOW  
WE HAVE THAT ON MUNICIPAL LOTS  
AND METERED PARKING BUT HAVE  
EFFORTS BEEN MADE TO COUNT HOW  
MANY SPACES ARE IN GARAGES AND  
UPDATES OF THE FLEXIBLE PARKING  
ORDNANCE?

>> WE HAVE A VERY GOOD INVENTORY  
OF OUR METERED PARKING SPACES WE  
LOOK AT HOW MANY RESIDENTIAL  
PARKING SPACES WE HAVE.

OFF STREET COMMERCIAL PARKING IS  
A NUMBER WE HAVE BECAUSE THOSE  
ARE PERMANENT BY THE CITY.

IN SOME CASES WE HAVE A GOOD  
HANDLE ON THE MORE RECENTLY  
BUILT BUT NOT ALWAYS THE KIND OF  
ONES BEEN AROUND THAT PREDATE  
THE REGULATIONS.

IN TERMS OF THE FLEXIBLE PARKING  
CORRIDORS BECAUSE THAT WAS A  
CHANGE IN CITY REGULATIONS AND  
BECAUSE IT WAS DONE WITH AN EYE  
TOWARDS MAKING THINGS AS EASY  
FOR THE PEOPLE PARKING OWNERS  
AND DON'T HAVE INSIGHT TO  
AGREEMENTS AND CHANGE THE  
REGULATION SO IT'S LEGAL FOR  
PEOPLE TO DO SO.

AND THERE'S A NO REPORTING  
REQUIREMENT FOR THE CITY.

THOSE ARE PERSONAL ARRANGEMENTS  
THE CITY WILL NOT BE PRIVY TO.

> Councillor Zusy: I ATTENDED  
ONE OF YOUR WORKSHOPS ABOUT THE  
FLEXIBLE PARKING CORRIDORS.

I HAD NO IDEA THERE WERE OTHER



PEOPLE ON THE CALL.  
WHERE THERE MANY PEOPLE THAT  
ATTENDED THE MEETING?  
IS THERE AN INTEREST FROM  
COMMERCIAL PARKING LOT OWNERS IN  
MAKING THEIR SPACES AVAILABLE?  
WE'LL BE MOVING FORWARD AS SOON  
AS WE HAVE THE COMMUNITY SET UP.  
WE HAD A LOT OF ENGAGEMENT AND  
ANSWERED QUESTIONS FROM PEOPLE  
AND HAD A WEBINAR AND OFFICE  
HOURS PEOPLE COULD SET UP FOR  
ONE-ON-ONE.

NOT A LOT OF PEOPLE TOOK  
ADVANTAGE OF THAT IN THE FORMAL  
TIMES WE HAD BUT WE'RE OPEN TO  
HELPING PEOPLE AND HELPING THEM  
NAVIGATE THAT AND MAKING THE  
INFORMATION AS WIDELY AVAILABLE  
AS POSSIBLE AND HOPE PEOPLE TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF THAT.

> Councillor Zusy: THANK YOU.  
I RECOGNIZE I KNOW WE WANT TO  
DISCOURAGE PEOPLE FROM DRIVING  
BUT WE HAVE 2,000 CITY STAFF AND  
1700 TEACHERS NOT ALL ARE  
DRIVING BUT SOME ARE BECAUSE  
THEY LIVE OUTSIDE OF THE  
COMMUNITY AND CAN'T GET HERE BY  
PUBLIC TRANSIT.  
ENCOURAGING THEM IS IMPORTANT AS  
WE REMOVE PLACES AS WE REMOVE ON  
STREET PARKING PLACES.  
THANK YOU FOR ENCOURAGING THAT  
ALONG.

THANK YOU AND I YIELD.

>>

>> Chair Nolan: I THOUGHT THE  
LETTER THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT  
I HAD TO FOLLOW SOME  
REGULATIONS.

IT WASN'T JUST THAT I -- I WANT  
TO CLARIFY THIS FOR FOLKS.  
COMMERCIAL PARKING IS REGULATED  
IN PEOPLE WHO WANT TO CREATE  
COMMERCIAL PARKING HAVE TO GO  
THROUGH A PERMITTING PROCESS

WITH THE CITY.

IT CAN BE A LITTLE CONFUSING  
BECAUSE COMMERCIAL PARKING IS  
PARKING FOR A FEE OPEN TO ANYONE  
AT ANY TIME AND THAT'S DIFFERENT  
THAN MAKING AN ARRANGEMENT WITH  
LIKE A ONE TO ONE ARRANGEMENT.  
IF YOU DECIDED TO RENT OUT YOUR  
PARKING SPACE IN YOUR DRIVEWAY  
TO A NEIGHBOR OR SOMEONE WHO  
WORKED AT A BUSINESS NEARBY,  
THAT'S NOT COMMERCIAL PARKING.

>> MAYBE SPECIFIED IN THE LETTER  
BUT I WAS SURPRISED TO GET IT  
BUT TURNS OUT IT'S ONE OF THOSE  
STREETS WE CHANGED BUT IT WASN'T  
CLEAR TO ME I LOOKED AT IT AND  
THE NEIGHBOR SAID I DO WOULD DO  
THIS BUT IT'S TOO MUCH WORK.  
WE MAY WANT TO RETHINK WHY WE  
HAVE THEM DO ANY COMMERCIAL IF  
THERE'S ANY WAY TO SIMPLIFY THE  
COMMERCIAL PARKING AS WELL.  
I KNOW THAT'S A LONGER  
DISCUSSION BUT -- SO.  
I'LL HAVE THE COUNCIL GO FIRST.  
OKAY.

WE HAD A COUPLE SIGN UP IN  
ADVANCE.

THE RECENT REORGANIZATION OF THE  
DEPARTMENT.

HOW DOES THAT IMPROVE SERVICES  
FOR IMPACT STAFF TIME AND ARE  
THERE PROCESSES IN THE PROCESS  
OF BEING SYSTEMIZED AND GENERATE  
STICKERS TO SAVE TIME AND  
ENERGY.

THAT'S THE KIND OF QUESTION IF  
YOU CAN TAKE THAT, COMMISSIONER.

>> THROUGH YOU, THE RECENT  
REORGANIZATION WE'RE EXCITED  
ABOUT AND SEE IT AS HAVING A  
NUMBER OF ADVANTAGED.

IT REFLECT THE GROWING FOCUS ON  
TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY IT  
WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION  
RELATED ISSUES.

FROM AN EXTERNAL PERSPECTIVE,  
THAT MEANS MAKING IT CLEAR TO  
THE PUBLIC AND OTHERS WITHIN THE  
CITY WITH ISSUES WITH  
TRANSPORTATION IT'S BEEN  
CONFUSING TO FOLKS OUTSIDE OUR  
DEPARTMENT FRANKLY NOT JUST OUT  
IN THE PUBLIC THAT CERTAINLY  
THINGS WERE HANDLED AS PART OF  
CDD AND CERTAIN THINGS WERE PART  
OF PTT AND EXCITED ABOUT THE  
STREAMLINING AND CLARITY WE'LL  
FOR THE PUBLIC AND EXTERNAL  
STAKEHOLDERS AND NEIGHBORING  
CITIES.

IT WILL SIMPLIFY COLLABORATION  
WITH ALL OF THOSE GROUPS.  
SO WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO  
THAT.

INTERNALLY WE'RE LOOKING FOR  
COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES.  
THIS BRINGS US CLOSER TOGETHER  
AND ALLOWS US TO COLLABORATE  
FROM THE BEGINNING OF OUR  
PROCESSES AND PLANNING IN A MORE  
HOLISTIC WAY WHERE WE'RE ONE  
GROUP LOOKING AT PLANNING  
THROUGH EXECUTION.

WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT THAT.  
IN TERMS OF PROCESSES THAT CAN  
BE SYSTEMIZED, WE'RE CONSTANTLY  
LOOKING FOR WAYS TO DO THAT.  
IN THE PAST YEARS WE'VE BEEN  
ABLE TO AT A LOT OF OFFERINGS IN  
THE PARKING MANAGEMENT AREA  
BRINGING A LOT OF WORK ONLINE  
AND WE OFFER MANY MORE PERMITS  
AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO  
TAKE CARE WITHOUT HAVING TO COME  
TO 344 BROADWAY TO ADDRESS YOUR  
QUESTION ABOUT THE MEMBERS AND  
THE TYPE OF PRINTING WE USE NOR  
PERMITS IS SOPHISTICATED AND HAS  
TO BE DONE OFF SITE.

IT'S DONE THAT WAY BECAUSE  
THERE'S A LOT OF SAFETY FEATURES  
BUILT INTO THE PERMITS WE CREATE

HAVING THE PRE-PRINTED HIGHLY SECURE PERMITS ENDS UP BEING THE BEST WAY TO DO IT AND DOESN'T TAKE VERY LONG AND INTRODUCING ANYTHING LIKE A PRINTED STICKER WOULD JUST DECREASE THE SECURITY OF THE PERMITS.

>> Chair Nolan: THANKS.

IS THE NEW SOFTWARE GOING TO BE AVAILABLE FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICERS AND SOMETIMES A TICKET IS ISSUED FOR A RESIDENT WHOSE PERMIT LAPSED AND NO WAY TO FLAG IT IN THE SYSTEM AND PEOPLE GET TICKETS UPON TICKETS AND HAVE TO GO TO THE FOOT NOTE ON THE WEBSITE TO FIGURE THAT OUT. DOES THAT MAKE SENSE AS A QUESTION?

>> I THINK WE MADE INTERNAL CHANGES TO PROCESSES THAT ELIMINATED THAT FOR AN ISSUE IN ANY CASE OTHER THAN A SEVERE LAPSE OF REGISTRATION.

>> Chair Nolan: IS THERE A BUDGET ASSOCIATED AND IS THAT IN THIS DEPARTMENT OR PUBLIC INVESTMENT SECTION?

>> I'M NOT SURE IF I HAVE TO SAY THROUGH YOU TO THE CHAIR, BUT RIGHT NOW WE'RE HOPING FOR SHORT AND MEDIUM-TERM IMPROVEMENTS AT THE LOCATIONS WE'LL BE ABLE TO INCORPORATE INTO ADJUSTED WORK WHETHER THROUGH OUR DEPARTMENT OR PUBLIC WORKS.

WE'LL LOOK FOR ALL THOSE OPPORTUNITIES AND THEN FOR THE LARGER PROJECTS, WE WILL HAVE TO WORK ON A LONGER TIME FRAME TO INCORPORATE THEM AS PART OF THE FIVE-YEAR STREETS AND SIDEWALKS AND THROUGH THE CAPITAL PROCESS. SO WE'LL KNOW MORE WHEN WE KNOW HOW MUCH WE CAN ADDRESS THROUGH THE SHORT AND MEDIUM AND WHAT NEEDS TO GO IN THE LONGER TERM

BUCKET.

>> WHAT IS THE STATUS OF US  
ADVOCATING FOR AND MOVING  
FORWARD WITH AUTOMATED TRAFFIC  
ENFORCEMENT.

>> I KNOW WE ARE -- I SAW THIS  
FROM THE CLERK YESTERDAY, WE'RE  
STILL WORKING ON -- WE'RE  
WORKING WITH THE DELEGATION TO  
GET THAT TAKEN UP TO GO THROUGH  
THE HOME ROW PETITION PROCESS.  
THAT'S FOR THE CAMBRIDGE  
SPECIFIC PARKING ENFORCEMENT.  
WE CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH  
MBTA ON THE BUS AUTOMATED  
ENFORCEMENT AND THEY ARE  
CURRENTLY ON WORKING ON  
REGULATIONS THEY NEED TO  
PROMULGATE TO DO THE WORK AND  
MEETING WITH THEM REGULARLY TO  
MAKE SURE THE REGULATIONS THAT  
ARE PASSED CAN BE DONE EASILY.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU.  
ARE THERE OTHER QUESTIONS?  
ALL RIGHT.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

>> Councillor Wilson: THANK YOU.  
THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR AND  
THROUGH TO THE COMMISSIONER.  
THANK YOU.

CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE DIVERSITY  
AND MAKE UP OF YOUR STAFF AND  
HOW IT REFLECTS IN THE CITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE?

SO WHEN WE LOOK AT GENDER  
DIVERSITY IN THE DEPARTMENT  
WE'RE APPROXIMATELY 60% MALE AND  
40% WOMEN.

WHILE THE NUMBERS AREN'T TOO  
OFF, THEY DO REFLECT CERTAIN  
OPERATIONAL NEEDS WE HAVE.  
AND WE WORK TO CHANGE THAT BUT  
IT'S CHALLENGING TO GET WOMEN  
INTERESTED IN SOME OF THE WORK  
THAT WE DO AND MAKE THEM MORE  
BALANCED IN THAT WAY.

IN TERMS OF RACIAL DIVERSITY IN

THE DEPARTMENT WE'RE ABOUT 50 IN TERMS OF PEOPLE OF COLOR AND ON OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM WE ARE NOT AS DIVERSE AS WE'D LIKE TO BE AND SOMETHING WE CONTINUE TO ADDRESS.

I HOPE THAT ANSWERS THE QUESTION.

>> Councillor Wilson: THANK YOU. AS FOR THE PDM WORKING GROUP CAN YOU SPEAK TO WHERE WE ARE WITH THAT AND IF THERE'S BUDGET NEEDS TO MOVE THAT ALONG.

>> I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN BY THE WORKING GROUP.

>> Councillor Wilson: IS THERE A WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED WITH SOME COMMITTEE FOR THE FLEXIBLE CORRIDORS THERE WAS NOT A WORKING GROUP.

WE DO HAVE A NUMBER OF WORKING GROUPS ACTIVE.

WE HAVE THE SAFETY ORDINANCE WORKING GROUP PUT TOGETHER TO ADVISE US ON HOW TO IMPROVE OUTREACH AND WORKED A LOT WITH THEM AND THAT WORK CONTINUES. WE ALSO HAVE PROJECT SPECIFIC WORKING GROUPS FOR THE CAMBRIDGE STREET PROJECT AND BROADWAY PROJECT UNDER THE CSO.

SORRY, THE COMMERCIAL PARKING CONTROL COMMITTEE I THINK IS PROBABLY WHAT YOU WERE REFERRING TO AND THAT IS AND THE PERIOD IS OPEN AND ENCOURAGE ANYONE INTERESTED TO PUT IN AN APPLICATION THROUGH THE PORTAL TO JOIN THE ACTION COMMITTEE AND THAT WILL BE PUT TOGETHER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ONCE THE APPLICATION PERIOD ENDS. AND THAT GROUP WILL MEET ANYTIME WE HAVE AN APPLICATION FOR OR PERIODICALLY TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR NEW COMMERCIAL PARKING PERMITS.

AND AS SOON AS WE'RE ABLE TO  
CONVENE THE GROUP, I KNOW  
THERE'S AT LEAST ONE ENTITY FOR  
COMMERCIAL PARKING AND WE'LL  
HANDLE THAT AS SOON AS THE  
COMMITTEE STARTS.

>> AND ABOUT WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE  
IS GOING TO BE THE TURNAROUND  
FOR THAT COMMITTEE?

SO MEANING FROM APPLICATIONS  
OPEN NOW TO WHEN THEY CLOSE TO  
WHEN THEY'RE SET UP.

WHAT'S THE TURNAROUND WHEN YOU  
BELIEVE FOLKS WILL BE ABLE TO  
START REVIEWING APPLICATIONS AND  
MAKING DECISIONS?

>> THE INTEREST FOR MEMBERSHIP,  
THEY'RE SET UP AND PROBABLY  
WITHIN A MONTH OF THE  
APPLICATION DATE AND GET THAT UP  
AND RUNNING.

IT'S A PRIORITY TO START  
OFFERING THE ABILITY TO REVIEW  
THE APPLICATIONS.

>> Councillor Wilson: ANOTHER  
QUESTION I HAVE.

>> Chair Nolan: THAT IS THE  
WHOLE CHANGE OF COMMERCIAL  
PARKING WE JUST DID, IS THAT  
CORRECT?

>> NO, BASICALLY THE PARKING  
CONTROL COMMITTEE IS SOMETHING  
THAT'S EXISTED FOR A VERY LONG  
TIME IN THEORY TO REVIEW  
APPLICATIONS.

WE'VE NOT HAD AN APPLICATION FOR  
A COMMERCIAL PARKING PERMIT IN  
25 YEARS.

WE BELIEVE BECAUSE OF THE  
CHANGES WE NEED TO THE  
ORDINANCES THERE WILL BE MORE  
INTEREST AND BECAUSE OF  
DISCUSSION ABOUT THERE BEING AN  
AVAILABILITY THERE'S A CAP ON  
THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL  
PARKING SPACES WE CAN PERMIT IN  
THE CITY AND FOR A LONG TIME

THERE WAS A MISCONCEPTION THAT WE DID NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO ISSUE ANYMORE BUT NA IS NOT THE CASE.

WE DO HAVE A NUMBER WE CAN ISSUE AND I THINK ALL THE CONVERSATION AROUND IT AND THE CHANGES TO THE ORDINANCE IS RESULTING IN A RENEWED INTEREST.

I DO ANTICIPATE THERE'S A LOT OF THAT CAN BE DONE UNDER THE FLEXIBLE CORRIDORS THAT DOES NOT INVOLVE THE COMMERCIAL PARKING PERMITS.

I BELIEVE WE'LL SEE MORE OF THE APPLICATIONS NOW THAT IT'S OUT IN THE MIX THEY'RE AVAILABLE AND PEOPLE LOOK TO PROVIDE THE PARKING.

>> YOU MEAN PRIOR TO THE ORDINANCE CHANGE?

>> Chair Nolan: RIGHT NOW? LIKE YOU SAID IN MY DRIVER CAN DO IT BUT IF I WANTED COMMERCIAL I CAN'T BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE THE PROCESS SET UP.

>> YES, WE'RE WORKING WITH THE PEOPLE INTERESTED.

I WANT TO BE CLEAR MOST PEOPLE WHO HAVE A SMALL PARKING LOT OR DRIVEWAY ARE NOT GOING TO BE CONVERTING IT TO COMMERCIAL.

>> Chair Nolan: I UNDERSTAND. I'M THINK OF THE LARGER ONES WHO DON'T HAVE THE PROCESS SET UP.

>> NO ONE HAS REACHED OUT TO US FROM CAMBRIDGE STREET BUT THERE'S AT LEAST ONE WAITING IN THE WINGS.

>> Chair Nolan: SORRY, COUNCILLOR WILSON BECAUSE I THINK THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED TO CLARIFY WE HAVEN'T HEARD OF PERMITS ISSUED AND WE ALSO HEARD THERE'S NOT BEEN A LOT OF INTEREST EXPRESSED. THANK YOU.



BACK TO YOU, COUNCILLOR WILSON.  
>> Councillor Wilson: THANK YOU.  
ON THAT NOTES -- ARE YOU SEEKING  
EIGHT OR MORE?

>> Chair Nolan: ARE YOU ASKING  
ABOUT RESIDENT PARKING PERMITS.  
I'M NOT SURE IF THERE'S FURTHER  
DELINEATION OF THE REVENUE  
SOURCES AROUND THAT PAGE.  
IT COMES FROM LICENSES OPPOSED  
TO THE GENERAL FUND TAXES  
BUDGET.

ON PAGE IV-9 OUR RESIDENT  
PARKING STICKERS PROJECTED FOR  
2026 IS \$700,000.  
THERE'S OTHER PARKING CHARGES AS  
WELL.

>> Mayor Simmons: IT IF YOU WERE  
TO REDUCE THIS SIGNIFICANTLY  
WHAT MIGHT THAT DO TO THE OVER  
ALL BUDGET?

>> THAT'S A GREAT QUESTION AND  
PART OF WHY WE TALKED IN THE  
PAST ABOUT RAISING THE RESIDENT  
PARKING STICKER PRICE.

I THINK WHEN WE'RE ABLE TO  
INTRODUCE THE MEANS TESTING, WE  
WILL BE ABLE TO RAISE THE PRICE  
OVER ALL FOR FOLKS WHO ARE ABLE  
TO AFFORD IT WITHOUT IMPACTING  
FOLKS WHO ARE NOT ABLE TO AFFORD  
THE INCREASED PRICE AND THAT  
WILL ALLOW US WITH THE HIGHER  
PRICES TO OFFSET SOME OF THE  
REDUCTION THAT WE'RE HOPING TO  
SEE OVER THE YEARS.

BUT FUNDAMENTALLY THERE ARE  
SOME -- WITH PARKING AND WITH  
TRANSPORTATION, WE ARE AT TIMES  
WORKING THE POLICY SIDE AND THE  
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SIDE, IT  
IS A REALITY IT DOES REDUCE  
REVENUE ON THE PARKING SIDE.  
BUT THAT IS SOMETHING THAT WE  
DEAL WITH AND WILL CONTINUE TO  
DEAL WITH MOVING FORWARD.  
WE DO SEE THE INCREASE IN

RESIDENT PARKING PLACES BOTH AS SOMETHING THAT WILL OFFSET THE REVENUE LOSS AND THE VALUE OF PARKING IN CAMBRIDGE AND WE WANT TO SEE THAT INCREASE TO BETTER REFLECT THE VALUES.

>> Mayor Simmons: WHILE YOU'RE ALL INTERESTED IN INCREASING THE COST OF RESIDENT STICKERS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN'T AFFORD IT, WHAT IS THE DEFINITION?

HOW DO YOU DETERMINE WHO CAN AFFORD IT VERSUS WHO CANNOT?

>> THROUGH THE MEANS TESTING WE'RE STILL FINALIZING EXACTLY WHAT THE -- WHAT WE BELIEVE IS THAT WHEN SOMEONE CAN SHOW US THAT THEY TAKE PART IN ANOTHER LOW-INCOME PROGRAM, THEN THAT WOULD MAKE THEM QUALIFIED FOR THE MEANS-TESTED PRICING WITH THE TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT.

SO WE'RE STILL FINALIZING WHAT THAT LIST WILL BE WHEN WE DO IMPLEMENT THE INCREASED PRICES AND THE MEANS TESTING BUT BASED ON PARTICIPATION IN OTHER PROGRAMS.

OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

>> Mayor Simmons: THANK YOU. AND THROUGH YOU CHAIR, THE HOPE IS TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT FROM PRICES BEING \$25 TO BECOMING WHAT?

>>

>> Chair Nolan: IT'S A COUNCIL ORDER WE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

>> Mayor Simmons: I KNOW.

>> Chair Nolan: IT WAS FOR \$75 BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT IT COSTS US TO ISSUE THE PERMITS.

WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO CHARGE ANYTHING MORE THAN WHAT THE ACTUAL COST OF ISSUING THE PERMITS ARE AND IT'S ABOUT \$75

TO ISSUE EACH PERMIT AND RIGHT NOW THEY ONLY COST \$25 SO EVERY TIME WE ISSUE A PERMIT WE'RE LOSING \$50 JUST ON STAFF AND MATERIAL COST OF ISSUING THE PERMIT.

I DIDN'T KNOW IF YOU HAD THAT KIND OF INFORMATION AND SINCE IT WAS THE COUNCIL WHO GENERATED THE IDEA AND HAD BEEN WORKING ON IT FOUR OR FIVE YEARS WITH THE IDEA WE'D ONLY RAISE THE COST TO WHAT THE COST OF ISSUING THE PERMITS, IF WE COULD BE ASSURED TO HAVE A WAY TO HAVE FOLKS IN THE CITY FOR WHOM IT WOULD BE A BURDEN TO RAISE, THERE'S 20% TO 25% OF PEOPLE IN THE CITY WHO DO NOT PAY ANY FEE BECAUSE THE IT WOULD BE MORE THAN A \$1 MILLION AND INSTEAD IT'S \$700,000 ASKS BECAUSE OF THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO DON'T PAY THE FEES INCLUDING ANYONE OVER 65.

>> Mayor Simmons: NO, I UNDERSTAND THAT.

I'M MAKING SURE WE'RE SPEAKING THIS OUT CLEARLY FOR THE FOLKS IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO MAY NOT UNDERSTAND OR FOLLOW AND KNOW IT'S OFF A POLICY ORDER AND THE POSSIBILITY FOR THE INCREASE MAY BE UNDERWAY AND IF FOLKS ARE INTERESTED IN A REDUCED COST, THESE ARE THE WAYS THEY MAY BE ABLE TO DO THAT.

THIS IS ALL ON THE BUDGET.

I'M ASKING THE QUESTIONS I THINK ARE APPROPRIATE IN REGARDS TO REVENUE AND MAKING SURE THAT WE ARE FULLY UNDERSTANDING THE BUDGET.

AM I RIGHT TO CONTINUE TO ASK MY QUESTIONS, MADAME CHAIR.

>> Chair Nolan: I WANTED TO GIVE YOU THE COUNCIL BACK UP FOR THE ORDER FROM THE COUNCIL NOT THE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND  
THEY'RE WORKING ON THAT IF THAT  
MAKES SENSE.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO SUGGEST IT  
WASN'T A QUESTION BUT SINCE THE  
COUNCIL ORIGINATED IT I DIDN'T  
PUT COMMISSIONER ON THE SPOT FOR  
JUSTIFYING SOMETHING THE COUNCIL  
DID NOT ASK FOR.

>> Mayor Simmons: UNDERSTOOD.

THANK YOU.

THANK YOU.

CAN I CONTINUE?

>> Chair Nolan: YES.

>> Mayor Simmons: THROUGH YOU,  
IN REGARDS TO THE PROJECTS  
FLORIDA WAY FOR BROADWAY AND  
MAIN, CAN YOU GIVE A TIME LINE  
ON WHERE WE ARE WITH THAT IN THE  
BUDGETS FOR EACH OF THOSE  
PROJECTS RIGHT NOW?

>> THE MAIN STREET PROJECT WILL  
BE INSTALLED IN THE NEXT FEW  
MONTHS.

I DON'T HAVE THE EXACT DATE YET  
AND THAT'S MAIN STREET BETWEEN  
MASS AVE AND PORTLAND STREET AND  
THE FIRST QUESTION BROADWAY FROM  
PORTLAND TO COLUMBIA, THE  
REPAVING HAS ALREADY STARTED AND  
THE PAVEMENT CURES BEFORE WE PUT  
DOWN MARKING AND THE  
INSTALLATION WILL HAPPEN IN JUNE  
TO JULY.

WE DON'T HAVE THE FIRST SECTION  
BUT WE HAVE THE DESIGN AND  
PLANNING ON THAT AS WELL.

>> Mayor Simmons: CAN YOU PLEASE  
REFERENCE THE BUDGET.

THROUGH YOU, MADAME CHAIR, I  
DON'T HAVE THE NUMBERS ON WHAT  
THOSE WILL COST IN FRONT OF ME.  
I CAN GET THE ESTIMATES BUT FOR  
MAIN STREET AND BROADWAY THEY'RE  
PAID FOR OUT OF THE OPERATING  
BUDGETS OF TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND

DPW PAYING FOR PAVING AS PART OF  
THE REGULAR OPERATIONS.  
THEY'RE NOT SPECIAL LINE ITEM  
BUDGETS FOR THE TWO PROJECTS.  
AND WE CAN TALK ABOUT THE  
CAPITAL.

>> Mayor Simmons: WITH THAT I'LL  
YIELD.

THANKS.

>> Chair Nolan: WE DON'T DO  
PUBLIC INVESTMENTS TODAY WHICH  
WOULD BE PART OF THE DISCUSSION  
BECAUSE AS COUNCILLOR WILSON WAS  
REFERRING TO THE CAPITAL PART OF  
THE BUDGET THAT WOULD BE THAT,  
IS THAT CORRECT?

>> YES.

>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU.  
DOES THAT ANSWER THE QUESTION,  
COUNCILLOR WILSON?

>> Councillor Wilson: YES, THANK  
YOU.

>> Chair Nolan: COUNCILLOR ZUSY.

> Councillor Zusy: AS A  
FOLLOW-UP TO COUNCILLOR WILSON'S  
QUESTIONS, I WISH WE COULD AND I  
DON'T KNOW IF IT'S LEGAL OR NOT,  
I WISH WE COULD BE CHARGING  
PEOPLE WITH LARGER VEHICLES MORE  
FOR PERMITS SINCE THEY'RE  
HEAVIER VEHICLES HAVE GREATER  
IMPACT ON OUR ROADS.

>> Chair Nolan: THAT WAS ANSWERS  
IN A LEGAL MEMO AND IT FOR  
VEHICLES IT HAS TO GO FOR THE  
COST.

WE WOULD LOVE TO.

WE THINK THERE'S A LEGAL CASE  
BUT WE'RE TOLD IT'S NOT IN THE  
CARDS NOW.

> Councillor Zusy: I REMEMBER  
SOMETHING VAGUELY BUT I WISH IT  
WAS POSSIBLE BECAUSE IT SEEMS  
APPROPRIATE.

THIS IS THINKING ABOUT THE  
BUDGET AND LEASING SPACES FOR  
PARKING, I KNOW WE'LL BE TALKING

ABOUT CAPITAL EXPENSES LATER BUT  
I KNOW YOU WANT TO ADD A FLEET  
OF FIVE CARS.

I'M WONDERING, WHERE WILL CITY  
STAFF THAT WORK ON OR AROUND  
PARKWAY IN THE NEW FLEET OF  
CARS, WHERE WILL WE PARK THEM  
ONCE PARKING IS ELIMINATED FROM  
BROADWAY?

>> THERE'S A PUBLIC INVESTMENT  
ITEM WE LEASE OUR LIGHT DUTY  
VEHICLES AND BUILD UP FUNDING TO  
REPLACE OUR HEAVIER DUTY  
VEHICLES WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO  
USE BECAUSE OF THE WORK WE DO.  
WHERE VEHICLES PARK, WE DO PARK  
AROUND THE ANNEX AND FIRST  
STREET GARAGE WHERE OUR OTHER  
OPERATIONS ARE AND WE'LL NEED TO  
CONTINUE TO DO THAT BUT I THINK  
FIGURING OUT EXACTLY HOW WE  
OPTIMIZE THE PARKING AND THE  
ANNEX WILL BE PART OF THE  
DETAILED DESIGN OF THE NEXT  
SECTION OF BROAD WAY.

>> I'M RELIEVED YOUR PLANNING  
FOR THAT BECAUSE IT SEEMS I  
THINK NEIGHBORS WILL BE  
CONCERNED OF MORE IMPACT ON CITY  
VEHICLES THERE WHERE PARKING IS  
ALREADY DIFFICULT.

THANK YOU.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT  
THAT.

THANK YOU, I YIELD.

>> Chair Nolan: CERTAINLY THAT  
DOESN'T EXHAUST THE QUESTIONS  
BECAUSE WE COULD PROBABLY KEEP  
THE TEAM HERE ALL DAY AND INTO  
TOMORROW BECAUSE OF THE  
IMPORTANCE OF THE ITEM AND HOW  
MUCH IT AFFECTS LITERALLY  
EVERYONE IN THE CITY WHO WORKS  
AND LIVES HERE.

HOWEVER, I THINK WE'VE GONE  
THROUGH THE QUESTIONS WE'RE MOST  
SALIENT FOR PEOPLE TODAY.

I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER HANDS  
RAISED.  
I'LL ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO MOVE  
THE TRANSPORTATION BUDGET OF  
\$14.1 MILLION FOR THE FULL CITY  
COUNCIL FOR FAVORABLE  
RECOMMENDATION BY COUNCILLOR  
SOBRINHO-WHEELER.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM.  
ABSENT.  
VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR TONER.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR WILSON.  
YES.  
COUNCILLOR ZUSY.  
YES.  
MAYOR SIMMONS.  
YES.  
THAT'S EIGHT MEMBERS VOTING YES.  
>> Chair Nolan: THANK YOU ALL.  
THANK YOU TO THE TEAM.  
NEXT, WE DO HAVE -- WE DID NOT  
PASS THE CHERRY STREET.  
I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S  
QUESTIONS ON IT BUT ON PAGE  
V198.  
>> I HAVE ONE QUESTION.  
>> Chair Nolan: THIS IS UNDER  
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TAB.  
THIS IS THE SHEET TO REMIND US  
STATE CHARGES AGAINST THE CITY  
AND CHARGES FOR SERVICES,  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE OF \$20  
MILLION AND \$15 MILLION ON THE  
PAGE FOR AIR POLLUTION CONTROL,  
EDUCATION AND MAPC, PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION IS EDUCATION OF  
22 MILLION AND PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION AND THE PROGRAMS.

IF THERE'S ANY QUESTIONS ON  
THIS, LET'S GO FORWARD, I  
BELIEVE.

> Councillor Zusy: THANK YOU,  
CHAIR NOLAN, I ATTENDED A  
BREAKFAST OF THE METROPOLITAN  
PLANNING COUNCIL AND I KNOW  
THEY'RE AN EXTRAORDINARY  
RESOURCE FOR US AND WONDER HOW  
THE CITY ENGAGES WITH THE  
ORGANIZATION.

I KNOW IT'S A GOOD INVESTMENT  
BUT WANT TO MAKE SURE WE'RE  
USING IT FULLY AND KNOW THEY  
OFFER A LOT OF GREAT PROGRAMS.  
>> THE QUESTION IS HOW ENGAGING  
WITH NAPC?

IT'S A REGIONAL PLANNING  
AUTHORITY AND A LOT OF WHAT THEY  
DO IS OFFER SUPPORT TO SMALLER  
COMMUNITY THAT DON'T HAVE  
PLANNING FUNCTIONS BUT ALSO PLAY  
A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN HELPING  
BRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER AND  
INVOLVED IN THE PUBLISHING WHICH  
IS A BODY OF 17 COMMUNITIES IN  
THE METRO AREA, MYSELF AND THEN  
MAYOR OF MEDFORD SHOW AS  
CO-CHAIRS OF METRO NEWS.  
AND LEAD THE WAY FOR THE METRO  
COMMUNITY TO HAVE A STRONGER  
VOICE ON BEACON HILL.

THERE'S A POLICY PRIORITIES IN  
TO HELP COORDINATE AND WE THEN  
BRING TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE  
AND TESTIFIED A COUPLE TIMES ON  
THE TIMES IN FAVOR OF THE REAL  
ESTATE TRANSFER FEE WHICH THIS  
COUNCIL VOTED IN FAVOR OF TWICE.  
UNFORTUNATELY THAT DIDN'T GET  
PUT IN.

BUT LOTS OF ENGAGEMENT TO MAKE  
SURE THE VOICES OF THE  
COMMUNITIES ARE BEING HEARD AND  
THAT WE CAN SPEAK COLLECTIVELY  
CAN SPEAK LOUDLY.

> Councillor Zusy: THANK YOU,



THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN, IS THE  
METRO MAYOR'S COALITION IS THAT  
SEPARATE FROM ME MAPC?

ARE THEY RELATED?

AND MY REAL QUESTION IS HOW DOES  
CITY STAFF ENGAGE WITH MAPC.

ALL ARE THE DEPARTMENTS  
ATTENDING MEETINGS.

>> Chair Nolan: COUNCILLOR ZUSY,  
IT HAS TO BE RELATED TO THE  
BUDGET.

THERE'S \$71,000 FROM THE MAPC IS  
THAT WHAT YOU'RE ASKING ABOUT?

> Councillor Zusy: IT'S A  
\$71,000 EXPENDITURE SO I'M  
WONDERING HOW WE'RE USING IT.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN, WE  
HAVE STAFF ALSO INVOLVED IN A  
COUPLE OF THE DIFFERENT TASK  
FORCES BEING COORDINATED THROUGH  
METRO MAYORS.

IT'S ONE ORGANIZATION THINK OF  
IT AS AN INITIATIVE OF NAPC AND  
ENGAGED MORE BROADLY ACROSS THE  
COMMONWEALTH.

NOT SIMPLY WITH THE 17  
COMMUNITIES IN THE METRO AREA.  
THERE'S A CLIMATE TASK FORCE AND  
OPIOID TASK FORCE AND I BELIEVE  
THERE'S ONE OTHER THAT MAY BE  
MISSING BUT THERE'S COERCION ON  
THE MAJOR ISSUES FACING THE  
NATION.

> Councillor Zusy: I WANT TO USE  
TO CONNECT AS AN EXTRAORDINARY  
RESOURCE FOR US AS COUNCILLORS  
AND CITY STAFF.

>> Chair Nolan: I HAVE ONE QUICK  
QUESTION, TELL ME IT'S QUICK OR  
WE WON'T DISCUSS IT AND THE \$12  
MILLION FOR PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION AND MBTA DO WE  
PAY THEM OR THEY PAY US ON PAGE  
V-198.

>> THAT IS PART OF OUR  
ASSESSMENT WE PAY THEM.

>> THAT'S AN INTERESTING NUMBER

I HADN'T NOTICED IN PAST BUDGETS  
AND INTERESTED TO KNOW HOW IT  
GETS CALCULATED AND DON'T HAVE  
TO DISCUSS IT TODAY BUT PUT IT  
ON THE SHEET FOR A FUTURE  
MEETING.

IT'S A SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF  
THE \$34 MILLION AND I UNDERSTAND  
THE EDUCATION PROBABLY GOES TO  
FUND THE CHARTER SCHOOLS.  
ANY OTHER QUESTIONS ON CHERRY  
SHEET?

>> IT'S SET BY THE STATE  
LEGISLATURE.

>> Chair Nolan: ANYTHING ELSE?

> Councillor Zusy: IS YOUR  
QUESTION HAVE WE BEEN PAYING  
THIS IS THIS A NEW COST?

>> Chair Nolan: IT'S BEEN IN THE  
BUDGET WE JUST HAVEN'T TALKED  
ABOUT IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING.  
YES.

NO OTHER QUESTIONS?  
I'LL ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO MOVE  
THE CHERRY SHEET TO THE FULL  
COUNCIL WITH A RECOMMENDATION.  
DISCUSSION HAVING OCCURRED.  
ROLL CALL.

>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM.  
ABSENT.

VICE MAYOR McGOVERN.  
YES.

COUNCILLOR NOLAN.

YES.

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI.

YES.

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR TONER.

YES.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

YES.

COUNCILLOR ZUSY.

YES.

MAYOR SIMMONS.

ABSENT.

YOU HAVE SEVEN RECORDED IN THE

AFFIRMATIVE AND TWO RECORDED AS  
ACCENT.

>> Chair Nolan: ALL RIGHT.  
WE HAVE TWO MORE DEPARTMENTS AND  
TWO COMBINED THAT WILL HEAR FROM  
THE WATER DEPARTMENT COMBINED  
WITH MWRA SINCE THEY'RE BOTH  
RELATED TO WATER.

[CAPTIONER SWITCH]

>> WATER DEPARTMENT IS ON PAGE  
V.

142NWRO ASSESSMENT IS ON PAGE  
V199.

THANKS FOR COMING BACK.  
IF YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE  
YOURSELF OR YOUR TEAM AND  
OPENING REMARKS, HAPPY TO HEAR  
THEM.

MARK GALDER, MANAGING DIRECTOR  
WATER DEPARTMENT.

ELIZABETH BARR, ADMINISTRATION  
AND FISCAL OPERATIONS MANAGER.  
WATER AND DRINKING WATER,  
SPECIFICALLY, IN MY OPINION, IS  
THE CITY'S MOST PRECIOUS  
RESOURCE.

EVERY RESIDENT AND BUSINESS NEED  
RELIABLE WATER TO FUNCTION AND  
THRIVE.

CWD ENSURES UNINTERRUPTED SUPPLY  
TO MEET DEMANDS OF THE CITY  
PROVIDING 4.5 BILLION GALLONS OF  
WATER TO THE CITY EACH YEAR.  
MAINTAINING ADEQUATE RESERVE AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE TO MEET FIRE  
PROTECTION NEEDS.

CWD MAINTAINS CAMBRIDGE WATER  
SYSTEM COMPRISED OF THREE  
RESERVOIRS.

THE WATERSHED PROTECTION LANDS  
RELATED EARN FROM STRUCTURE  
GATEHOUSES DAMS AND SPILLWAYS.  
8-MILE LONG STONYBROOK CONDUIT.  
UNDERGROUND TRANSMISSION AND  
DISTRIBUTION.

INTERCONNECTS AND THE  
RESERVATION ITSELF.

CWD THREE MAIN DIVISIONS WATER  
SHED DISTRIBUTION TO PROTECT AND  
ENSURE SOURCE WATER QUALITY.  
MONITOR AND MAINTAIN FRESH POND  
RESERVATION LARGEST GREEN SPACE  
IN THE CITY.  
SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND  
VISITORS EACH YEAR.  
TREATMENT DIVISION DRAWS FROM  
FRESH POND, DISINFECTS AND  
REMOVES COMPOUNDS AND ORGANIC  
MATERIALS AND ELIMINATES

BACTERIA.  
IN HOUSE LAB TO ENSURE THE WATER  
MEETS OR SURPASSES REGULATORY  
WATER STANDARDS BEFORE PUMPING  
FINISHED WATER TO STORAGE TANKS  
IN BELMONT FOR DISTRIBUTION.  
MAINTAINS THE UNDERGROUND SYSTEM  
OVER 200 MILES OF TRANSMISSION  
AND DISTRIBUTION MAINS,  
APPROXIMATELY 16,000 SERVICE  
CONNECTIONS, 15,000 CONTROL  
VALVES, 1900 FIRE HYDRANTS AND  
THREE INTERCONNECTS TO MEET 100%  
OF THE CITY WATER DEMAND IF  
NEEDED.

BUDGET REFLECTS NEEDS TO  
MAINTAIN CITY WATER SYSTEM TO  
ENSURE WE CONTINUE TO PROVIDE  
HIGHEST QUALITY DRINKING WATER  
TO MEET CITY'S NEEDS.

>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU.  
WE RELY ON IT.

IT IS THE SUBJECT OF DEBATE  
GIVEN THE SUPPLY OVER THE LAST  
YEARS, SLOPE OF THE CURVE TO THE  
HOBBS BROOK IS STEEPER THAN  
USUAL.

I HAVE BEEN MONITORING SINCE  
DIRECTOR GALLAGHER SENT ME.  
WE ARE BELOW 15 YEAR AVERAGE.  
TODAY WILL HELP.  
WHAT QUESTIONS CURRENTLY FROM

THE BODY?

COUNCILOR ZUSY.

>> Councilor Zusy: I HAVE BEEN  
IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH CHAIR  
GALLAGHER ABOUT THE WORK OF HIS  
DEPARTMENT.

I HAD NO IDEA UNTIL I WAS  
READING THE BUDGET BOOK OF THE  
EXTENT OF YOUR WORK OR  
COMPLEXITY AND WHAT FASCINATING  
JOB YOU HAVE.

I WANTED TO ASK ABOUT -- A  
CONSTITUENT WRITTEN ME CONCERNED  
WE SHOULD JUST BE BUYING WATER  
FROM THE MWRA INSTEAD OF HAVING  
OUR OWN RESERVOIR.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER SHARED A  
GREAT CASE WHY WE SHOULD HAVE

OUR OWN WATER RESOURCE.

I DON'T IF YOU WANT TO SHARE  
THAT IN SHORT.

I WAS CONVINCED IT WAS GOOD  
INVESTMENT FOR THE CITY.  
YOU CAN SPEAK TO THAT BUT I  
WANTED TO ASK ABOUT I AM HAPPY  
THAT YOU ARE REPLACING THE LEAD  
LINES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, AND  
WE ARE DOING SO MANY DIFFERENT  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

ARE YOU COORDINATING THESE WITH  
THE PW SO THAT THERE WILL BE  
LEAST AMOUNT OF NEGATIVE  
IMPACTS.

WHO DOES THE COORDINATION OF THE  
PROJECTS?

WILL YOU DO THAT OR DPW OR IN  
TANDEM.

IF YOU COULD SPEAK TO THAT.

THANK YOU.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.

I WOULD SPEAK TO YOUR QUESTION  
ABOUT MWA JUST TO PUT THAT  
INFORMATION OUT THERE.

THE MWRA IF WE WERE TO SWITCH TO

M WRA ONLY SUPPLIES THE WATER.  
THAT IS ALL WE GET FROM THE  
MWRA.  
MAINTENANCE OF DISTRIBUTION  
SYSTEM, LABORATORY WATER QUALITY  
SAMPLING, MAINTAINING FRESH POND  
RESERVATION.  
FIRE PROTECTION.  
METERING WOULD REMAIN  
RESPONSIBILITY OF CITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE AND WATER DEPARTMENT.  
WHEN YOU PUT THOSE ALTOGETHER  
MWRA CURRENTLY CHARGES JUST  
UNDER 5,000 PER MILLION GALLONS.  
BASICALLY, THAT COST OF BUYING  
THE WATER AND MAINTAINING WHAT  
WE WOULD STILL NEED TO MAINTAIN  
WOULD DOUBLE THE WATER RATE FOR  
THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.  
WE DO ALL OF IT SUPPLY ALL OF  
THE WATER AND MAINTAIN THE FRESH  
POND RESERVATION WITH THE  
CURRENT BUDGET WHICH IS HALF  
WHAT MWA WOULD CHARGE JUST FOR

WATER.  
THE LEAD SERVICES WE COORDINATE  
CLOSELY WITH DPW. WE WORK WITH  
THEM TO COORDINATE WATER MAIN  
REPLACEMENT AND LEAD SERVICE  
LINE REPLACEMENT.  
UNDER THE NEW RECENTLY PASSED  
E.P.A. AND STATE REGULATIONS FOR  
REMOVAL OF LEAD FROM THE  
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WHICH THE  
STATE HAS SET GOAL OF BEING ABLE  
TO DO THAT IN FIVE YEARS.  
WE WILL HAVE TO HAVE PROJECTS  
THAT ARE OUTSIDE OF DPW  
PROJECTS.  
HOWEVER, WE DO WORK CLOSELY WITH  
DPW AND OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS  
TO MAKE SURE WE COORDINATE WHERE  
THAT WORK IS GOING TO HAPPEN,  
WHEN IT IS GOING TO HAPPEN SO

THAT WE DON'T INADVERTENTLY TIE  
UP STREETS AND CREATE ISSUES  
WITH TRAFFIC OR GO INTO A  
LOCATION THAT WAS JUST RECENTLY  
PAVED.

THEN HAVE TO DIG IT UP TO PUT IN  
WATER INFRASTRUCTURE.

>> Councilor Zusy: DOES DPW  
COORDINATE THE WORK OR DO YOU  
BOTH COORDINATE THE WORK?

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
EACH WEEK DPW HOLDS A CITY  
CONSTRUCTION MEETING FOR ALL  
CONSTRUCTION IN THE CITY.  
ALL CONSTRUCTION THAT IS  
HAPPENING IN THE PUBLIC  
RIGHT-OF-WAY.

THERE ARE HUNDREDS RIGHT NOW,  
HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE THAT ATTEND  
THESE MEETINGS FROM SOMEONE  
DOING SIMPLE WATER SERVICE  
REPLACEMENT TO THE RIVER STREET  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, WHICH IS  
VERY LARGE UNDERTAKING.  
THEY COORDINATE THAT EVERY WEEK.  
EVERYONE HAS TO SAY HERE IS  
WHERE I AM WORKING THIS WEEK,  
THIS IS WHAT IS GOING ON.  
THAT ALLOWS US TO SAY NEXT WEEK  
WE ARE GOING TO BE WORKING HERE.

IT DEFINITELY HELPS TO ALLEVIATE  
ANY CONFLICTS WITH TWO  
CONTRACTORS TRYING TO SHOW UP IN  
THE SAME PLACE AT THE SAME TIME  
OR CLOSING DOWN STREETS AT THE  
SAME TIME THAT WE CREATE A  
TRAFFIC JAM.

DPW IS TYPICALLY THE BODY THAT  
COORDINATES ALL OF THAT  
INCLUDING WHAT THE WATER  
DEPARTMENT DOES.

>> Councilor Zusy: I WAS READING  
THAT PRESIDENT TRUMP IS GOING TO  
LOWER -- THE PFAS STANDARDS WERE

ELEVATED. HE IS REDUCING THE STANDARDS.  
WE ARE BUYING EQUIPMENT TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY FROM PFAS.  
WILL WE CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION HIGHER STANDARDS?  
>> YES, WE JUST SAW THAT INFORMATION COMING OUT OF THE E.P.A.  
THEY WERE AMENDING THE REGULATION THEY PASSED LAST YEAR.  
THEY ARE NOT COMPLETELY ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PFAS.  
THEY ARE CONTINUING THE TWO LARGEST OR COMPOUNDS OF CONCERN PFOA AND PFOS STILL REGULATED TO LEVELS ORIGINALLY IN THE REGULATION.  
HOWEVER, THERE IS GOING TO BE ADJUSTMENT.  
THAT INFORMATION HASN'T BENEFICIALLY BEEN RELAYED TO US YET.  
HOWEVER, THE STATE DEP CAN STILL MAINTAIN, BE STRICTER THAN THE E.P.A. FEDERAL STANDARDS.  
THE E.P.A. STATE IS TYPICALLY THEY LED THE COUNTRY.  
WE WERE ONE OF THE FIRST STATES IN THE COUNTRY TO REGULATE PFAS.  
MY ASSUMPTION IS THEY WOULD NOT RESCIND REGULATIONS AND PROBABLY MAINTAIN THAT.

>> Councilor Zusy: THANK YOU.  
>> Councilor Nolan: FOLLOWING UP ON THE GAC FILTERS MAIN WAY OF DOING THAT.  
IS THE COST OF THAT STEADY?  
>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR, CURRENTLY IT WHEN WE JUST PUT THAT CONTRACT OUT TO BID, RE-BID IT



CAME IN SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN  
ORIGINAL CONTRACT.  
FROM \$1.5 MILLION TO  
\$1.2 MILLION THAT IS GREAT.  
IT IS STILL THAT WILL BE A  
CONTINUING OPERATIONAL EXPENSE  
WE HAVE TO ADD.  
OUR DATA INDICATES WE HAVE TO  
CHANGE CARBON OUT ONCE EVERY  
YEAR TO MAINTAIN LOWEST PFAS  
LEVELS.  
CURRENTLY AFTER WE EXCHANGED  
CARBON WHICH WE TYPICALLY DO  
BETWEEN JANUARY AND MARCH.  
IT TAKES THREE MONTHS TO REMOVE  
SIX FILTERS AND REPLACE THEM.  
OUR SECOND QUARTER RESULTS FOR  
PFAS WERE NONDETECT ACROSS THE  
BOARD IN QUARTER TWO.  
>> THAT IS GOOD NEWS.  
WHAT HAPPENS TO THE FILTER WITH  
THE PFAS I HOPE IT IS SAFELY  
DISPOSED OF AND FOLLOWING  
REGULATIONS.  
THE LEAD SERVICE REPLACEMENT IS  
IMPORTANT FOR HEALTH.  
GLAD THE STATE REGULATIONS HAVE  
HELPED ALL CITIES ACROSS THE  
COMMONWEALTH HAVE A BETTER  
STANDARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR  
CITIZENS.  
I LOVE THE MEASURABLE RESULTS,  
GOALS, PERFORMANCE MEASURES.  
BLACK FLOW IS ONGOING FOR 6300  
IS SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF  
BACK FLOW DEVICES OR ARE THEY  
TESTED ANNUALLY.  
>> DIFFERENT LEVELS OF BACK FLOW  
DEVICES.  
SOME ARE REGULATED THEY NEED  
TESTED EVERY YEAR.  
THEY HAVE TO BE TESTABLE DEVICE.

WE DO MONITOR THAT TESTING.  
THE PROPERTY OWNER IS REQUIRED

TO DO THE TESTING.

WE ARE REQUIRED TO BE THERE TO OBSERVE THAT.

IF THEY FAIL TO FOLLOW UP TO MAKE SURE THEY REPAIR OR REPLACE BACKFLOW DEVICES TO PROTECT PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ON DISTRIBUTION SIDE.

>> Councilor Nolan: WHAT IS STATUS OF US ENSURING WHILE WE HAVE WATER THAT MEETS SAFETY STANDARDS?

CAFES AND SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE CITY NEED TO HAVE DIFFERENT EQUIPMENT TO ENSURE THEIR OPERATIONS ARE NOT ADVERSELY AFFECTED OR LIFE OF THEIR APPLIANCES WHICH ARE EXPENSIVE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

WHAT WE TRIED TO DO IS ENSURE PLUMBERS UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENT PROFILE TO THE WATER. WHAT IS THE COMMUNICATION PLAN? IS THAT IN YOUR BUDGET TO ENSURE THAT HAPPENS?

IT AFFECTS SMALL BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS THAT FOUND APPLIANCES IF NOT PROPERLY SPECIFIED DO NOT LAST AS LONG AS THEY SHOULD.

>> WE HAVE INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE.

WHEN WE ISSUE PERMITS WE HAVE SPECIFIC SITE FOR PLUMBERS ON THE WEBSITE THAT DISCUSSES THAT. OUR WATER CHEMISTRY AND SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT PROPERTY OWNERS CAN SEE, DEPENDING ON THE PARTICULAR PIECES OF EQUIPMENT THEY ARE INSTALLING BOILERS OR ESPRESSO MACHINES, ETC.

FIRST STEP IS CHECK MANUFACTURERS' RECOMMENDATIONS. IF EQUIPMENT IS SENSITIVE TO WATER CHEMISTRY, MANUFACTURER PROVIDES THIS IS WHAT WE REQUIRE FOR THIS PIECE OF EQUIPMENT TO WORK PROPERLY AND TO LAST UNDER

THE WARRANTIED TIMEFRAME.

WE PROVIDE OUR WATER CHEMISTRY  
IS ONLINE.

WE PROVIDE IT ON THE PLUMBER'S  
INFORMATION SHEET TO SAY THIS IS  
WATER CHEMISTRY AND WHAT YOU  
NEED TO KNOW SO THEY CAN TAKE  
PROPER STEPS TO FILTER FOR THAT  
SPECIFIC PIECE OF EQUIPMENT.  
ON OUR END, WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY  
LOOKING AT WAYS TO IMPROVE WATER  
QUALITY SECONDARY STANDARDS NOT  
REGULATORY.

WE APPLIED FOR FUNDING FOR  
CHLORIDE STUDY ON RESERVOIRS  
WHICH WE ARE FAVORABLE TO GET  
FUNDING TO CONDUCT THAT STUDY.  
WE ARE USING OUR DATA FOR WATER  
QUALITY TESTING IN OUR UP  
COUNTRY RESERVOIRS TO MONITOR  
THAT AND TRY TO IDENTIFY SOURCES  
WHERE THEY ARE COMING FROM AND  
HELP ALLEVIATE THEM AT THE  
SOURCE INSTEAD OF AT THE  
TREATMENT PLANT.

>> Councilor Nolan: WE HAVE DONE  
A GOOD JOB PROTECTING OUR  
WATERSHED THE LAND IS  
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HIGH  
PERCENTAGE OF SULFIDES AND THE  
RANGE THAT WE DON'T CONTROL  
BECAUSE WE ARE NEAR THE HIGHWAY  
THAT USES CHEMICALS FOR THE  
SNOW.

IT AFFECTS US.

IT WOULD BE GREAT TO LOOK AT HOW  
MANY PEOPLE DOWNLOADED THAT AND  
PLUMBERS LOOKED AT THE WEBSITE  
AND ISD PEOPLE THAT UNDERSTAND  
THE WATER PROFILE.

SIGNIFICANT EXPENSE FOR  
RESIDENTS AND SMALL BUSINESSES  
WHEN NOT PROPERLY INFORMED ABOUT  
WATER PROFILE THAT IS HEALTHY

BUT LEADS TO DIFFERENT RESULTS.  
MORE WE CAN DO TO GET THE WORD  
OUT THERE.

ONE FINAL QUESTION.

TALK IN THE PAST AND I'M NOT  
SURE IF I HAVE SEEN IT.

WATER BOARD HAS SHOWN A LONG

FIVE TO 10 YEAR PLAN  
UNDERSTANDING TO TAKE INTO  
ACCOUNT THE FACT WE HAVE SEEN  
DROUGHTS AT DIFFERENT LEVEL.  
HAS THAT BEEN DONE?

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR, WE HAVE A  
CONTRACT WITH CDM.

THEY ARE UPDATING.

WE HAD A DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN  
AND THEY ARE NOW UPDATING THAT.

THAT WAS DONE IN 2016.

THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF  
UPDATING THAT, COLLECTING THE  
RECENT DATA BECAUSE, OBVIOUSLY,  
AS WE HAVE ALL SEEN, THE DROUGHT  
OCCURRENCE IS INCREASING EVERY  
OTHER YEAR INSTEAD OF IN THE  
HISTORICALLY EVERY 10 YEARS.

WE ARE LOOKING AT THAT AND  
LOOKING AT HOW WE CAN BETTER  
PREDICT AND/OR MANAGE OUR SYSTEM  
IN RESPONSE TO THOSE DROUGHTS TO  
HELP MAINTAIN THE SUPPLY AT  
ADEQUATE LEVEL TO GET THE WORD  
OUT ABOUT WATER CONSERVATION AND  
UP WATER CONSERVATION IN THAT  
REGARD.

YES, THAT IS ONGOING WITH CDM TO  
UPDATE THAT 2016 DROUGHT  
MANAGEMENT PLAN.

>> Councilor Nolan: WHAT IS THE  
TIMING?

I HAVE HEARD ABOUT IT FOR A FEW  
YEARS.

I AM JUST WONDERING.

>> WE ANTICIPATE WE WILL HAVE  
THE DRAFT OF THAT SOMETIME THIS

FALL.

>> Councilor Nolan: IT IS  
IMPORTANT.

IT IS IN PROCESS FOR A WHILE.  
I ENCOURAGE US TO DO WHAT WE CAN  
TO ENSURE THAT PLAN IS IN PLACE  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
REVIEWING THE WATER BOARD  
MINUTES IT WAS A FEW YEARS AGO  
IT WAS EXPECTED.  
I HOPE IT IS SOON.  
THOSE ARE MY QUESTIONS FOR THE  
WATER DEPARTMENT.

WHILE WE ARE HERE SINCE WE COULD  
PASS THEM BOTH.  
IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT  
NWRA, WE SHOULD ADDRESS THEM  
NOW.

THAT IS ON PAGE V-199 UNDER  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE.  
WE SOMETIMES DON'T HAVE  
QUESTIONS ON IT, BUT THIS IS A  
\$33 MILLION BUDGET.  
JUST TO REMIND US ALL, OUR  
WATER AND OUR NWRA BUDGETS GET  
COVERED BY CHARGES FOR SERVICES.  
IT REALLY IS A WASH.

>> THESE CHARGES ARE PRIMARILY  
ASSOCIATED WITH SEWERS.

>> Councilor Nolan: IT WOULDN'T  
BE THAT.

WE WILL FINISH WITH THE WATER  
DEPARTMENT.

COUNCILOR WILSON.

>> Councilor Wilson: THANK YOU,  
MADAM CHAIR AND THANK YOU TO THE  
WATER DEPARTMENT.

IF YOU CAN JUST SPEAK TO THE  
DIVERSITY OF THE DEPARTMENT,  
PLEASE.

IN THE REPRESENTATION AS WE ARE  
IN CITY OF CAMBRIDGE AND  
DIVERSITY WITHIN LEADERSHIP.  
THANK YOU.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
STAFF DIVERSITY I DON'T HAVE THE  
EXACT INFORMATION, BUT WHAT I DO  
HAVE IS LOOKING AT OUR STAFFING.  
IN LOOKING AT PERSONS OF COLOR  
AND ALL OTHER DEMOGRAPHICS,  
BASICALLY WE HAVE 23% IS  
CONSIDERED NONWHITE POPULATION.  
AS FAR AS WOMEN STAFFING, WE ARE  
AT 17%, THREE OF THOSE ARE IN  
SENIOR MANAGEMENT STAFF  
POSITIONS.  
THAT'S PRIMARILY WHAT I HAVE ON  
THAT STAFF DIVERSITY.  
>> Councilor Wilson: THANK YOU.  
JUST TO BE CLEAR.  
ANY PERSONS OF COLOR?  
>> YES.  
>> Councilor Wilson: WERE YOU

ABLE TO HEAR ME?  
>> I THINK YOU CUT OUT.  
>> Councilor Wilson: ANY PERSONS  
OF COLOR ON THE LEADERSHIP TEAM  
OR LEADERSHIP STAFF?  
>> YES.  
ONE IN PARTICULAR, YES.  
>> Councilor Wilson: THANK YOU  
SO MUCH.  
I YIELD.  
>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU,  
COUNCILOR WILSON.  
I BELIEVE NO OTHER QUESTIONS FOR  
WATER DEPARTMENT.  
WE WILL MOVE FOR COUNCILOR ZUSY  
MOVES WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET  
\$13.6 MILLION TO THE FULL CITY  
COUNCIL WITH FAVORABLE  
RECOMMENDATION.  
ROLL CALL.  
>> Clerk: AZEEM ABSENT.  
MCGOVERN.  
>> YES.  
>> NOLAN.  
>> YES.

>> SIDDIQUI.  
>> YES.  
>> TONER.  
>> YES.  
>> WILSON.  
>> YES.  
>> ZUSY.  
>> YES.  
>> AZEEM ABSENT.  
>> Councilor Nolan: WE COULD DO  
MWAR AND THEN PUBLIC  
INVESTMENTS.  
ANY QUESTION ON THE MWRA  
APPROPRIATION WHICH IS  
\$33 MILLION.  
THIS IS ALL RELATED TO SEWERS.  
OUR WATER DEPARTMENT TAKES CARE  
OF WATER.  
WE PAY MWRA TO DEAL WITH SEWERS.  
NO QUESTIONS.  
PUBLIC INVESTMENTS ARE NEXT.  
UNLESS UP WANT TO SAY SOMETHING.  
>> I WOULD SAY THAT SIMILAR TO  
WATER, ALL OF THE COLLECTION  
SYSTEM IS OURS.

WE TRANSFER THE SEWAGE TO MWRA  
REGIONAL SYSTEM AND THEY TREAT  
AT DEER ISLAND THIS.  
IS THE CONTRIBUTION WE PAY.  
BACK THROUGH THE SEWER RATE.  
WHEN WE SET THE SEWER RATE IN  
MARCH THIS IS PART OF THE  
CALCULATION WHAT IS DRIVING  
SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THE SEWER  
RATE.  
>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU.  
WE RELY ON THAT.  
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT UNTIL  
SOMETHING BACKS UP.  
THEN YOU REALIZE IT.  
IT IS SADLY NOT LARGE ENOUGH  
CONDUITS TO HARVEST HEAT FROM  
IT.  
IT IS EXAMINED AT MY URGING TO

HAVE THAT THERMAL TRANSFER.  
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH FLOW WITH  
THE CURRENT TECHNOLOGY IN CASE  
YOU WERE WONDERING ABOUT  
RENEWAL.  
I WAS INVOLVED IN IT FOR A FEW  
WEEKS.  
NO DISCUSSION.  
NO FURTHER DISCUSSION ON NWRA  
\$33 MILLION DEPARTMENT BUDGET, I  
GUESS.  
SEEMS SILLY BACK AND FORTH  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE TO  
FULL CITY COUNCIL WITH FAVORABLE  
RECOMMENDATION.  
ROLL CALL.  
>> Clerk: AZEEM ABSENT.  
McGOVERN YES.  
NOLAN YES.  
SIDDIQUI.  
>> YES.  
>> WHEELER.  
>> YES.  
>> TONER.  
>> YES.  
>> WILSON.  
YES.  
>> ZUSY.  
>> YES.  
>> MAYOR SIMMONS.  
>> YES.

YOU HAVE 8 RECORDED AFFIRMATIVE.  
ONE RECORDED AS ABSENT.  
>> Councilor Nolan: LAST  
DEPARTMENT.  
WE WILL POWER THROUGH.  
ANYONE ONLINE.  
AARON WELLS SIGNED UP BUT IS NOT  
ONLINE.  
IF THAT PERSON ENDS UP ONLINE WE  
WILL TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT AT END.  
WE HAVE A FULL ARRAY OF PEAK  
PUBLIC INVESTMENT SPANS MANY,  
MANY DEPARTMENTS.



WE WILL, LET'S SEE.  
THERE IS AN ENTIRE SECTION IN  
BUDGET BOOK.  
SECTION V-1.  
VI.  
80 PAGES STARTING ON IV1 AND  
GOING TO IV82.  
THIS SPANS.  
THERE IS A SUMMARY OF WHAT THIS  
GOES TO.  
THERE IS SOMETHING OF A SUMMARY  
ON V-6 THAT \$121 MILLION OF THE  
151 FY26 APPROPRIATIONS IS NEW  
MAINTENANCE DEVELOPMENT.  
EDUCATION \$19.9 MILLION.  
PUBLIC SAFETY \$4.9 MILLION.  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT \$4 MILLION.  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT 258.  
DETAIL PUBLIC INVESTMENT  
PROJECTS START ON V7.  
THEY GO THAT IS PUBLIC  
INVESTMENT PROJECT BY CATEGORY.  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC  
SAFETY, COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE.  
AREA EVER INVESTMENT.  
CLIMATE CHANGE RELATED.  
INVESTMENT IN MUNICIPAL  
FACILITIES, OPEN SPACE ON PAGE  
V9 TO LET FOLKS KNOW IF YOU ARE  
INTERESTED IN TOPIC.  
YOU CAN LOOK AT THE PROJECTS  
UNDER THAT.  
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN  
DEPARTMENTAL AREA ON V7 AS  
OPPOSED TO V9.  
FOR EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THE  
PROJECTS IS A DESCRIPTION.

I NOTED WITH A COUPLE OF THESE  
THAT I TALKED ABOUT THE CITY  
STAFF ABOUT WHAT WE SHOULD ALSO  
HAVE IN OUR PUBLIC INVESTMENT.  
WE TRY TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT DONE  
THIS AS COMPREHENSIVELY AS WE  
MIGHT.

IF THIS IS APPROPRIATION THIS  
YEAR WE SHOULD HAVE OTHER YEARS.  
\$2 MILLION THIS YEAR BUT  
\$5 MILLION LAST YEAR AND EXPECT  
ANOTHER MILLION.

WE ARE MOVING TOWARDS THAT.  
THERE ARE SOME AREAS WHERE THAT  
HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETELY  
TRANSPARENT.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THAT AS  
WE MOVE FORWARD.

THERE ARE QUESTIONS RAISED ON  
THESE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS AS WE  
MOVE FORWARD.

NOT BECAUSE WE DON'T WANT TO  
FUND EVERYONE.

WE RECOGNIZE WE HAVE BEEN IN A  
TIME WHEN MUCH OF OUR PUBLIC  
INVESTMENT IN THE PAST WAS DONE  
WITHOUT AS MUCH FOCUS ON  
ENSURING IT WAS THE QUALITY WE  
WANTED THAT MANY OF OUR PROJECTS  
WE TALKED OFTEN IN THIS CHAMBER  
MIGHT HAVE BEEN A DIFFERENT  
LEVEL AND DIFFERENT FUNDING IF  
WE HAD BEEN IN A DIFFERENT  
FINANCIAL CLIMATE.

THAT IS CERTAINLY SOMETHING MANY  
OF US HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT AS WE  
FACE THE CHALLENGE OF FIGURING  
OUT HOW TO MOVE FORWARD WITH  
MORE PROJECTS THAN WE CAN REALLY  
AFFORD.

WITH THAT I THINK I WILL TURN IT  
OVER TO THE TEAM HERE.

CITY MANAGER, DCM AND NEXT DCM  
BUT CURRENTLY COMMISSIONER OF  
PUBLIC WORKS AS WELL AS FINANCE  
TEAM.

THERE IS A WHOLE ARRAY OF PEOPLE  
IN THE BACK IF WE WANT THEM  
INTRODUCED, YOU CAN.

IT IS UP TO YOU, TEAM, TO KICK

THIS OFF.

>> WE HAVE A FULL COMPLEMENT OF FOLKS IN THE ROOM IN CASE THERE ARE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS. IT DOES SPEAK TO COMPLEXITY AND BREADTH OF THE PROJECTS WE ARE DOING. OVERLAPS WITH A LOT OF DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS. NOT TO TAKE LIGHT AWAY FROM PEOPLE. FOLKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR DETAILED QUESTIONS ABOUT PROJECTS. I DON'T KNOW IF THE CITY MANAGER HAS OPENING STATEMENTS.

>> THROUGH ME TO YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.

IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR WE HAD PUBLIC INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING AT THAT TIME WHERE WE PREVIEWED WHAT OUR ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES WOULD BE FOR PUBLIC INVESTMENT FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS. NUMBERS ARE CONSISTENT WITH WHAT WE PROPOSED AT THAT POINT IN TIME AND HAPPY TO TRY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE. THANK YOU.

>> Councilor Nolan: WHO HAS QUESTIONS?

IT CAN'T JUST BE ME AND COUNCILOR ZUSY.

>> WE HAVE PEOPLE THAT KNOW SPECIFICS. BOOK IS ORDERED BY GROUPINGS. MAYBE WE CAN INSTEAD OF POPCORNING AROUND. IT MIGHT BE BEST TO DO IT IN SOME SORT OF ORDER SO WE CAN HAVE THE RIGHT PEOPLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS AS WE GO THROUGH.

>> Councilor Nolan: WOULD IT MAKE MORE SENSE TO DO IT BY THE CATEGORIES ON 6-7 OR 6-9?

>> PERHAPS BY DEPARTMENT SO THAT WE CAN MOVE THROUGH.

>> Councilor Nolan: GIVEN THAT ADVICE FROM OUR ACM SPINNER,

THAT IS YOUR TITLE, RIGHT?  
OKAY.

MAKING SURE IT IS NOT SOMETHING  
ELSE.

FIRST IS GENERAL GOVERNMENT,  
WHICH HAS EGOV \$1.2 MILLION.  
FINANCE ERP, EXCITING HUMAN  
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.  
GIS FLYOVER.

BUDGETING \$1 MILLION TOTALING  
\$4 MILLION.

THERE IS A FUNDING SOURCE.  
WE DON'T HAVE TO TALK ABOUT IT  
NOW.

THAT IS MANY OF THESE HAVE  
DIFFERENT FUNDING SOURCE.  
IT IS NOT JUST ALL BONDS.  
IT IS A RANGE OF SOURCE.  
THOSE ARE V4 AND 5.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT PROJECTS  
HERE.

EGOV WHAT WILL THAT GET US?  
WE HAVE AI ACROSS THE CITY.  
>> WE WILL WORK TOWARDS IT.  
THE THAT IS THE GOAL.

I WILL CALL OUT GIS FLYOVER WE  
DO EVERY SEVEN YEARS.  
WE PUSHED OFF ONE ADDITIONAL  
YEAR SO ALL DIFFERENT CHANGES  
TAKING PLAYS WITH CSO CAN BE  
INCLUDED.

>> EGOV IS FOR WHAT WILL THAT  
POSITION US TO DO?

>> EGOV IS ALL TECHNOLOGY  
RELATED PROJECTS THROUGH IT  
DEPARTMENT.

WE HAVE SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS TO  
COMPLETE SECURITY WORK THAT  
HAPPENS AROUND BUILDINGS  
REGARDING PHYSICAL SECURITY.  
WE WILLED.

WE SPOKE ABOUT RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT WORK.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL

CAPABILITIES TO PUT ON TOP OF  
RECORDS MANAGEMENT PLATFORM TO  
ALLOW TO MORE EASLEY AGE RECORDS  
GOING FORWARD AND FILE AWAY AND  
MAKE SURE WE HAVE SENSITIVITY  
LABELS ON ALL DOCUMENTS.  
>> THE \$1.2 MILLION.  
WE HAVE THAT INFORMATION

SPECIFICALLY OUTLINED ON PAGE  
12.  
THAT IS REALLY A LOT OF  
REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT FOR THE  
CITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY.  
ERIC, DO YOU WANT TO GIVE DETAIL  
WHAT THAT IS?  
THAT IS AN ANNUAL TYPE OF  
EXPENDITURE.  
>> THIS IS REGULAR EQUIPMENT  
MAINTENANCE.  
A LOT OF REPLACEMENT.  
MIKE AND HIS TEAM MAKE SURE OUR  
EQUIPMENT IS ROBUST, UP-TO-DATE,  
UNDER SUPPORT.  
DIFFERENT LEVEL TO REPLACE.  
SOME ON THREE OR FIVE OR SEVEN  
YEAR SCHEDULE THAT WE REPLACE  
THEM.  
THIS IS KEEPING THE LIGHTS  
RUNNING.  
>> THANK YOU.  
NEXT ONE WHICH IS ERP \$700,000.  
WE ACTUALLY ALLOCATED FUNDING  
LAST YEAR.  
THIS IS ONGOING WORK THAT WILL  
HAPPEN OVER A SERIES OF YEARS.  
PAGE 6-13 TO SEE WE ARE  
PROJECTING OVER THE NEXT FIVE  
YEARS WE WILL NEED TO INVEST IN  
OUR ENTERPRISE RESOURCE  
PLANNING.  
ERIC WILL MENTION THOSE  
PROJECTS.  
>> THANK YOU.  
THROUGH YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

MODERNIZATION PROJECTS WITH  
EXISTING ERP IS ADDING AP  
AUTOMATION TOOLS.  
INSTEAD OF PAPER WE CAN HAVE  
ONLINE DIGITAL INTAKE AND  
AUTOMATIC WORK FLOW GOING AROUND  
THE CITY.  
LESS PAPER WALKED AROUND THE  
CITY AND MORE DIGITALLY.  
WE HAVE THE NEW BUDGETING SYSTEM  
PLUGGING INTO ERP WHICH YOU WILL  
BE ABLE TO SEE NEXT BUDGET  
CYCLE.  
THERE IS A LOT MORE HRIS

PROJECTS IN IF ERP TO TAKE THE  
PAPER PROCESSES TO ADD  
AUTOMATION AND EFFICIENCY TO DO  
MORE WITH EXISTING STAFF INSTEAD  
OF HAVING TO ADDITIONAL PEOPLE  
ALONG THE WAY.  
>> Councilor Nolan: TO THAT I  
SAY HALLELUJAH TO LESS PAPER AND  
MORE ABILITY TO DO THIS ALL IN  
DIFFERENT FORM.  
TRULY IT IS A LONG AWAITED.  
ANY QUESTIONS ON THE GENERAL  
GOVERNMENT PROJECTS?  
I THINK WE WILL GO THROUGH AND  
HAVE ONE VOTE AT THE END.  
WE DON'T VOTE THESE SEPARATELY,  
IS THAT CORRECT, CLERK?  
I AM GETTING THE WORD.  
NEXT IS PUBLIC SAFETY.  
WHICH IS A TOTAL OF  
\$4.8 MILLION.  
IT INCLUDES EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATIONS.  
IT DOES INCLUDE VEHICLE  
REPLACEMENT.  
ON THE FIRE THEY DID NOT APPEAR  
TO BE ELECTRIC VEHICLES.  
I AM CURIOUS AS TO WHY.  
IT DOESN'T SAY IT IS EV ON THE  
BACK UP PAGES.

THAT IS OUR POLICY.  
ANY QUESTIONS ON THAT.  
WE ARE GOING OFF THE LIST ON V-7  
PUBLIC SAFETY, EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATIONS.  
COUPLE OF FIRE, POLICE RADIO.  
TRANSPORTATION HAS A NUMBER OF  
STUDIES AND ALLOCATIONS.  
>> Councilor Zusy: I HAVE  
QUESTIONS HOW OFTEN PUBLIC  
SAFETY RADIO SYSTEMS ARE UPDATED  
\$12 MILLION.  
HOW OFTEN FIRE VEHICLES ARE  
REPLACED.  
>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
CLARIFICATION NEW SQUAD VEHICLE.  
IT IS GOING TO BE ELECTRIC  
VEHICLE.  
IN TERMS OF \$400,000 THAT IS  
BEING REQUESTED, IT IS FOR

REFURBISHMENT OF TWO EXISTING  
VEHICLES.  
ACTUAL VEHICLE ITSELF WILL  
REMAIN WITH THE CITY.  
THE ACTUAL WE ARE REFURBISHING  
THE EXISTING BODIES OF THE 2017  
SQUAD VEHICLES.  
>> Councilor Nolan: NEW SQUAD  
VEHICLE IS EV ON PAGE 20.  
>> CORRECT.  
>> Councilor Nolan: I WILL ASK  
ANY VEHICLE PURCHASE IN ENTIRE  
CITY.  
SINCE REFURBISHMENT NOT EV BUT  
HOPEFULLY IN THE FUTURE.  
TO COUNCILOR ZUSY'S QUESTION.  
IS THE \$12 MILLION?  
>> WALTER AND CHRISTINA ARE  
HAPPY TO RESPOND BE TO THOSE  
QUESTIONS.  
>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR, HOW LONG  
DOES AN EXISTING RADIO SYSTEM  
LAST?  
CURRENT SYSTEMS REPLACED LAST 15

YEARS.

WE PROJECT IN THE SAME RANGE  
7-10 YEARS.

MANUFACTURER CONTROLS LIFE OF  
THE SYSTEM.

>> Councilor Zusy: MY FOLLOW UP  
WITH FIRE VEHICLES HOW OFTEN ARE  
FIRE VEHICLES REPLACED?

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
I CAN'T ANSWER THAT DIRECTLY.  
I WILL GET BACK TO YOU WITH MORE  
DETAILS ON THAT.

>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU.  
ANOTHER QUESTION I HAVE.  
IT IS ON TOTALLY EXCITED TO SEE  
ALLOCATION UNDER THE SECTION FOR  
TRANSPORTATION STUDY.

IF IT TURNS OUT WE ARE DOING A  
DIFFERENT LEVEL STUDY OR LESS IF  
WE PASS THIS FORWARD DOES THAT  
MEAN WE ARE STUCK WITH THAT KIND  
OF?

I WONDER IF THERE IS A WAY THAT  
WE MAY BENEFIT FROM PAST STUDIES  
AND BUILD ON IT AND NOT HAVE TO  
SPEND THAT MUCH MONEY AND TIME

ON IT.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
ABSOLUTELY.

WE WILL SAVE AS MUCH MONEY AS WE  
CAN ON THIS.

I THINK AS I SAID AT OUTSET WHEN  
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT CONSULTING  
SERVICES THAT WE NEED TO DO THIS  
TYPE OF WORK.

WE WANT TO DO IT THOROUGHLY AND  
SUCH THAT WE HAVE SOMETHING THAT  
IS COMPREHENSIVE.

THIS \$300,000 ALLOCATION FOR  
THIS PURPOSE SEEMS REASONABLE.  
WE WILL LOOK TO MAKE SURE WE DO  
IT AS EFFICIENTLY AND  
COST-EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE.

>> Councilor Nolan: IF WE CAN,



IN OTHER WORDS, IF WE APPROVE IT  
IT DOESN'T MEAN WE WON'T BE  
INVOLVED OR UNDERSTAND THE  
SCOPE.

OKAY.

AGAIN, I AM EXCITED ABOUT IT.  
AS I HAVE BEEN ON THE RECORD  
THIS IS A LONG TIME COMING.  
FIVE YEARS.

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE IF WE CAN  
DO THAT SOONER RATHER THAN  
LATER.

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS ON THE  
TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM, VISION  
SAFETY IMPROVEMENT?

THESE ARE UNDER TRANSPORTATION.  
THESE LOOK LIKE STUDIES, IS THAT  
CORRECT?

TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM AND  
VISION SAFETY IMPROVEMENT 350  
AND \$300,000.

>> THROUGH YOU, MADAM CHAIR.  
TRAFFIC SIGNAL THAT IS ANNUAL  
REQUEST THAT ALLOWS US TO KEEP  
UP THE STATE OF GOOD REPAIR OF  
TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEM ACROSS THE  
CITY.

IT IS THE TYPE OF THING WHERE WE  
DON'T ALWAYS HAVE A CAPITAL NEED  
EVERY YEAR.

WHEN A NEED DOES COME UP FOR A  
FULL REPLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC

SIGNAL OR INTERSECTION IT IS A  
SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MONEY.  
WE BUILD UP THE FUND AND THEN  
SPEND IT.

>> WE ALLOCATE AN EVERY YEAR AND  
SOMETIMES USE IT AND SOMETIMES  
DON'T.

NONE OF.

>> Councilor Nolan: QUESTIONS  
UNDER PUBLIC SAFETY?  
COUNCILOR ZUSY.

>> Councilor Zusy: CAPITAL

BUILDING PROJECTS.  
I AM ALL SET.  
>> Councilor Nolan: NOT ON THIS  
SECTION.  
OKAY.  
THEN I THINK WE WILL GO TO THE  
NEXT WHICH IS BY FAR THE  
LARGEST.  
IT IS \$121 MILLION TOTAL OF  
PROJECTS.  
THIS IS UNDER COMMUNITY  
MAINTENANCE, DEVELOPMENT.  
IT INCLUDES THE CAPITAL BUILDING  
PROJECTS, MUNICIPAL FACILITIES  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN \$11 MILLION.  
CDD SEVERAL OPEN SPACE AND SOME  
TRANSPORTATION.  
PUBLIC WORKS HAS THE RANGE OF  
PROJECTS BOTH BUILDING,  
ELECTRICAL, ENERGY, PARKS, SEWER  
AND STORMWATER IS SIGNIFICANT  
PERCENTAGE OF IT.  
I WILL NOTE MUCH OF THAT FUNDING  
COMES FROM SEWER \$38 MILLION  
REVENUE SOURCE FROM SEWER.  
NOT DIRECTLY OUT OF GENERAL FUND  
BUDGET.  
THAT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE.  
THE STREETS.  
PUBLIC WORKS STREETS.  
\$27 MILLION.  
COMPLETE STREETS RECONSTRUCTION  
OF \$21.9 MILLION.  
AS WE DISCUSSED UNDER WATER LEAD  
SERVICE LINE REMOVE VALVES  
DICTATED BY THE STATE INCREASING  
REQUIREMENTS.  
I AM GETTING NOD FOR US ENSURING

WE TAKE A COUPLE THOUSAND LEAD  
LINES WE STILL HAVE IN THE CITY.  
WE ARE MOVING TOWARDS ENSURING  
THOSE ARE NO LONGER BEING USED.  
THAT IS \$122 MILLION OF  
PROJECTS.

THERE MAY BE QUESTIONS.  
WHAT QUESTIONS ARE THERE SO FAR?  
COUNCILOR ZUSY.  
>> Councilor Zusy: LOOKING AT  
CAPITAL BUILDING PROJECT  
MUNICIPAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT  
PLAN.  
GOING FROM \$11.1 MILLION  
INVESTMENT IN FISCAL YEAR 26 TO  
\$44.95 MILLION IN FISCAL YEAR  
27.  
I WANTED TO UNDERSTAND THE JUMP  
THERE.  
>> WHY DON'T WE START WITH THAT  
ONE.  
>> WE CAN GO INTO MORE DETAIL  
WHAT IS PROVIDED OVER NEXT TWO  
YEARS.  
APPROPRIATIONS ARE LUMPY.  
BONDING PROJECTS WE TRY TO  
SPREAD THE BONDING OUT SO THERE  
IS NOT SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WHEN  
IT COMES TO SEWERS AND SEWER  
RATE.  
TO ENCUMBER PROJECT WE  
APPROPRIATE A LOT MORE MONEY  
SPREAD OUT OVER A NUMBER OF  
YEARS.  
DETAILS WITH THE NEXT TWO YEARS  
PERHAPS, NICK, IF YOU WARRANT TO  
GO THROUGH THIS.  
>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
YOU WILL SEE FUNDING ALLOCATED  
TO M FIP IN THE RANGE OF  
\$11 MILLION.  
YOU ARE CORRECT THERE IS A SPIKE  
IN FY27.  
THAT IS ASSOCIATED WITH TWO  
SPECIFIC PROJECTS TENTATIVELY  
SLATED TO POSSIBLY BEGIN THAT  
YEAR SUBJECT TO WHAT HAPPENS  
BETWEEN NOW AND THEN.  
THOSE ARE 105 WINDSOR RENOVATION  
FOR THAT BUILDING.

AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENT FOR DPW  
IN THE ALE WIFE AREA.

>> JUST SO THAT I UNDERSTAND  
THIS PROCESS BETTER SO WE ARE  
HEARING ABOUT PROJECTS MY  
CONCERN IS CUTTING BACK ON THESE  
PROJECTS.

IF COUNCIL VOTES TO SUPPORT THEM  
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

AS FAR AS FINANCIAL CONDITION  
CHANGES CAN WE TRUST THE CITY  
MANAGER AND HIS STAFF WILL  
REDUCE SPENDING?

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
YOU ARE VOTING ON FY26  
ALLOCATION.

WHAT YOU HAVE BEYOND THAT ARE  
JUST WHAT WE PREDICT WE WILL  
NEED IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS.  
THAT IS SUBJECT TO SIGNIFICANT  
CHANGE.

WE CONTINUE TO LISTEN TO CITY  
COUNCIL.

AND RECOGNIZE IN THE OVERALL  
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE CITY  
MAY CHANGE.

IN TERMS OF THAT WHICH WE  
APPROPRIATE IN FY26 WE MAY  
SLOWDOWN EXPENDITURE IF NEED  
ARISES.

>> Councilor Nolan: I WANT TO  
MAKE SURE IF WE VOTE TO SUPPORT  
FOR THE FUNDING OF ALL PROJECTS  
TODAY THAT IT WON'T LOCK US IN  
AS CITY FOR MAKING CUTS IF WE  
NEED TO DO SO.

THANK YOU.

I HAD SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT OPEN  
SPACE PROJECTS.

WE ARE DOING COMMUNITY  
MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT  
SECTION.

WITH SITE IMPROVEMENTS THIS IS A  
GOOD INVESTMENT.

I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT SOME  
NEIGHBORS HAVE SAID THAT THEY  
REALLY, MANY THINK THE SYNTHETIC

TURF IS GOOD FOR PLAYING FIELDS.  
NEIGHBORS WANT GRASS FOR  
PICNICKING, SUNBATHING, DOG

WALKING.

THEY HOPE WE PURSUE MIDDLE WAY  
AND HAVE GRASS ALONG PERIMETER  
SO IT WON'T ALL BE SYNTHETIC.  
APPARENTLY SYNTHETIC GETS HOT  
AND UNCOMFORTABLE AND DOESN'T  
WORK FOR DOGS.

IDENCY THE PARK PROJECT THAT HAS  
WE SLOWED DOWN INVESTMENT.  
IT SEEMS LIKE WE ARE DOING  
PLANNING BUT MOST OF THE  
IMPROVEMENTS WILL HAPPEN LATER  
IF WE HAVE FUNDING?

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR.

MAYBE INTRO IN TERMS OF OPEN  
SPACE PROJECTS.

TRADITIONALLY AND CHAIR NOLAN  
TALKED ABOUT INCREASING  
TRANSPARENCY AND HAVING OUT  
YEARS IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET.  
IF YOU GO BACK TO LOOK AT OPEN  
SPACE, A LOT WERE FUNDED THROUGH  
FREE CASH AS PROJECTS CAME UP  
THROUGH THE WORK CDD HAS DONE TO  
LOOK AT AN OPEN SPACE PLAN AND  
HAVE LONGER TERM PLAN AND  
UNDERSTAND WHAT WE ARE DOING  
THIS YEAR, THREE YEARS AND FOUR  
YEARS AND FIVE YEARS TO MAKE  
SURE IT IS ACCOUNTED FOR IN THE  
OVERALL BUDGET.

YOU ARE SEEING THIS YEAR FOR THE  
FIRST TIME REALLY FULL PICTURE  
OF WHAT THE SPENDING IS  
PROJECTED SPENDING FOR OPEN  
SPACE.

THAT IS ONE OF THE THINGS WE ARE  
WORKING ON.

WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO  
INCORPORATE THAT ON TO THE BOND  
SCHEDULE.

THE OPEN SPACE BEFORE US TODAY  
IS THAT WE ACTUALLY DECREASED  
AMOUNT OF PROJECTED OPEN SPACE  
FUNDING IN THE BOND SCHEDULE BY  
SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS WHILE  
ALSO ADDING IN AHERN NOT  
PREVIOUSLY PROJECTED AT THIS  
SCOPE.  
WE CAN TALK MORE DETAIL.

WE WERE ABLE TO ADD IN DANAHE.  
OVER 30 YEARS OLD SIGNIFICANT  
CAPITAL INVESTMENT IS NEEDED  
THERE.

WHILE WE ARE PRIORITIZING  
IMPROVEMENTS WE ARE SLOTTING  
THAT INTO THE OPEN SPACE  
FUNDING.

WE ARE ABLE TO INCORPORATE AHERN  
AND PROJECTS FOR DANAHE WHILE  
REDUCING PROJECTED BONDING FOR  
OPEN SPACE.

TRYING TO BE QUITE RESPONSIVE TO  
THE MOMENT THAT WE ARE IN TERMS  
OF FUNDING AND FINANCIAL  
CONSTRAINTS WHILE ALSO  
IDENTIFYING WHERE WE HAVE  
SIGNIFICANT CAPITAL NEEDS AND  
WORKING THOSE INTO THE PLAN.

>> Councilor Zusy: AS YOU KNOW I  
AM ADVOCATE OF OPEN SPACE ADDING  
TO QUALITY OF LIFE FOR CITIZENS.  
I AM AWARE AND I THINK WE ARE  
CONTRACTING OUR OPEN SPACE  
DEVELOPMENT OUT NOW.

ALMOST ALL OUT WHEN IN THE PAST  
WE USED TO DO A LOT INTERNALLY  
WHEN ROB S TEK WAS AND DESIGNER.  
WE WOULD DO DESIGNING AND WORK  
WITH DPW WITH CONSTRUCTION.  
HE TALKED ABOUT HOW HE COULD  
MODIFY DESIGNS AS PARKS WERE  
BEING DEVELOPED AND MAKE  
IMPROVEMENTS AS NECESSARY.  
I THINK THERE IS A WAY THAT WE

CAN CARE FOR OUR OVER 100 PARKS  
SO ESSENTIAL TO THE CITY WITHOUT  
ALWAYS PAYS TOP DOLLAR,  
CONTRACTING OUT DESIGN,  
CONTRACTING OUT CONSTRUCTION.  
I HOPE WE WILL DO THAT.  
WITH DANAHE.  
WHEN YOU WALK IT, IT IS OBVIOUS  
THERE ARE A GREAT NEED FOR  
IMPROVEMENTS IN SOME PLACES.  
ALONG WITH \$100,000 INVESTMENT  
PER YEAR FOR A WHILE WE WILL BE  
DOING PHASED IMPROVEMENTS.  
IN FISCAL YEAR 28, GOD WILLING,  
\$8 MILLION.

IN FISCAL YEAR \$37 MILLION.  
THESE ARE PHASED IMPROVEMENTS.  
MUCH NEEDED.  
>> ONE IN TERMS OF KEEPING THE  
PARK OPEN.  
IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE TO CLOSE  
DOWN.  
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO DO THAT  
AS ONE BIG PROJECT.  
IT WILL BE INDEPENDENT PROJECTS  
THAT GO ALONG.  
WE WORKED IT INTO THE PLAN TO  
SAY, OKAY, EVERY OTHER YEAR IS A  
PROJECT AT DANEHY TO ADDRESS  
NEEDS THERE.  
WHILE BEING ABLE TO ADDRESS  
OTHER PARKS THROUGH OUT THE  
CITY.  
THE POINT ABOUT THE \$100,000  
WHICH IS IN HUMAN SERVICES  
BUDGET REALLY MANAGED.  
THAT IS ALMOST LIKE HEAVY  
MAINTENANCE VALUE.  
EQUIPMENT ON SITE NEEDS TO BE  
MAINTAINED, SURFACING NEEDS  
MAINTAINED.  
THAT IS A HEAVY MAINTENANCE  
BUDGET.  
THAT IS SOMETHING CONSISTENTLY

FUNDED.

WE ARE LOOKING 30 YEARS LATER  
MUCH MORE SIGNIFICANT CAPITAL  
INVESTMENT.

>> Councilor Zusy: IMPORTANT TO  
BE ON THE PLAN.

WE ARE IN DIFFICULT TIMES.  
I WILL WATCH HOW THE ROLLOUT  
HAPPENS.

LINEAR PARK UNDER  
TRANSPORTATION.

I LOVE THE PARK AND IT NEEDS  
IMPROVEMENTS.

MANY PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY  
THAT FEEL LIKE AN INCREDIBLY  
GORGEOUS PARK THAT HAS WON  
NATIONAL AWARDS IS TURNING INTO  
A BICYCLE HIGHWAY.

IF WE NEED TO CUT BACK ON  
FUNDING FOR THIS YEAR, I HOPE  
DELAYING THAT PROJECT MIGHT BE

CONSIDERED.

>> TO BE CLEAR SO THERE IS NO  
FUNDING IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET  
FOR LINEAR PARK.

THAT IS PREVIOUSLY FUNDED.  
OPEN HOUSE IN FEBRUARY WITH  
COMMUNITY.

THOSE PLANS ARE FINAL.

FINAL QAQC ON THOSE.

THOSE ARE ABOUT TO BE BID.

I WANT TO BE REALLY TRANSPARENT  
ABOUT THAT.

>> Councilor Zusy: ANY CHANCE  
THAT PROJECT COULD BE DELAYED  
SINCE WE ARE IN A DIFFERENT  
FINANCIAL TIME?

>> THAT IS NOT THE CURRENT PLAN.  
WE ARE CURRENTLY ACTIVELY  
BIDDING THAT PROJECT BASED ON  
COMMUNITY PROCESS AND  
COMMITMENTS THAT WE HAD.  
GOING BACK TO LINEAR PARK THERE  
ARE SIGNIFICANT ACCESSIBILITY



ISSUES DETERIORATED CONDITIONS  
FOR THE PATH AND PEOPLE AS WELL  
AS FOR THE EXISTING TREES AND  
OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE  
SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS FOR TREES  
IN THE FUTURE.

THAT PROJECT IS PROCEEDING.

>> Councilor Zusy: THANK YOU FOR  
BEING STRAIGHTFORWARD.

I YIELD.

>> Councilor Nolan: I WANT TO  
FOLLOW UP ON THAT BEFORE I GO TO  
OTHERS.

THERE ARE SEVERAL OF US WITH  
QUESTIONS ABOUT THE AHERN FIELD  
ALLOCATION \$7.5 MILLION.

WE HEARD FROM FOLKS THAT SOME  
IMPROVEMENTS SHOULD GO FORWARD  
AS LONG AS PFAS FREE AND HEALTHY  
FIELDS.

I COULD SUPPORT IT.

HOWEVER, IT DOES SEEM  
\$7.5 MILLION SEEMS LIKE WHAT WE  
HAVE COMMITMENT TO IS ADDRESSING  
SAFETY ISSUES AND DESPERATELY  
NEEDED MAINTENANCE.  
NOTHING ELSE FOR PARKS GIVEN WE

CUT SO MUCH FROM OTHER PLACES.  
I WOULD LIKE US TO CONSIDER HOW  
IT IS WE CAN FOR THAT PARK  
PROVIDE A FIELD NOT SOMETHING  
THAT IS \$7.5 MILLION WHICH SEEMS  
WAY OUT OF LINE WITH MANY OTHER  
EXPENDITURES GOING ON FOR THIS  
INPUT.

ANOTHER QUESTION RAISED HOW IT  
FITS WITH DEVELOPMENT OF CHARLES  
STREET PARCEL BEFORE THE  
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR.

THE REASON THAT WE ARE  
ADDRESSING THIS PROJECT NOW IS  
THAT THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR  
US TO ACTUALLY EXECUTE A

CONTRACT AT THIS LOCATION.  
GIVEN THE FACT WE ARE DOING WORK  
AT THE SCHOOL.  
THAT WILL BE EMPTY.  
THERE IS A BENEFIT IN SCALE  
GETTING REDUCE PRICE FOR THE  
SCHOOL AND THE FIELD.  
THE PLAYGROUNDS WERE IN THE LONG  
TOMORROW SCHEDULE IN TERMS OF  
IMPROVEMENTS.  
IT MAKES SENSE TO MOVE THAT  
PROJECT UP TO THIS POINT IN  
TIME.  
WITH THAT I WILL HAND IT OVER.  
>> Councilor Nolan: WHAT CAN THE  
COST BE GIVEN WE WORKED HARD ON  
THE FIELD ADDRESSING SAFETY AND  
THE COSTS CAME DOWN SEVERAL  
MILLION DOLLARS.  
>> I CAN DO A BREAKDOWN OF  
AHERN.  
WHEN THESE QUESTIONS CAME UP WE  
DIDN'T DO JUSTICE IN BUDGET BOOK  
IN THE OVERALL SCOPE OF THE  
PROJECT.  
LAST YEAR WE IDENTIFIED THE  
FIELD NEEDED REPLACED UPGRADED  
AS HEAVY MAINTENANCE SCOPE.  
WHEN WE HAD THOSE CONVERSATIONS  
WE GOT INTEREST IN SAYING REAL  
TONIGHT TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY  
AND PLAYING HOURS FOR THE YOUTH  
SOCCER AND HEAVY USES WITH

ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELD TO SUPPORT  
SIGNIFICANTLY MORE ACTIVITY.  
WE ARE LOOKING AT THAT.  
THAT IS SIGNIFICANT COST.  
I WANT TO BE TRANSPARENT ABOUT  
THAT AS WELL.  
I THINK ABOUT 2.5 TO \$3 MILLION  
IS ASSOCIATED WITH THAT NEW  
PLAYING FIELD.  
IN TERMS OF THE FIELD WE ARE  
WORKING WITH THE REPLACEMENT

TURF AT DANEHY WORKING WITH  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT WITH  
THE BEST STANDARD IN TERMS OF  
THOSE FIELDS.  
WE HAVE STANDARDS THAT ADDRESS  
THAT IT IS NOT MANUFACTURED WITH  
PFAS.  
INDEPENDENT TESTING AS WELL.  
WE ARE DEFINITELY REALLY  
PRIORITIZING THE SAFETY OF THOSE  
FIELDS.  
IN TERMS OF THE HEAT.  
WE HAVE IN THE DANEHY IT HAS A  
LIGHTER ORGANIC MATERIAL.  
WE ARE EXCITED TO SEE THAT COME  
INTO PLACE.  
WE TALKED ABOUT THIS AS THE  
FIELD PROJECT.  
TWO DIFFERENT PLAYGROUNDS IN THE  
PLAN SEVERAL YEARS OUT.  
WITH THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY  
LET'S DO ONE PROJECT AND ALL AT  
THE SAME TIME.  
IT INCLUDES THOSE TWO  
PLAYGROUNDS WHICH ARE QUITE  
LARGE.  
IT INCLUDES LIGHTING FOR THE  
FIELD TO GET THE MOST USE OUTS  
OF THE FIELD.  
HOCKEY COURT IS IN EXTREMELY  
POOR CONDITION THAT NEEDS  
RECONSTRUCTED.  
HAS A BASKETBALL COURT AND HALF  
ACRE OF WALKWAYS.  
I SAY THAT TO SAY WE ARE  
CONTINUING TO LOOK AT THE  
PROJECT.  
WHAT WE HAVE RIGHT NOW IS VERY  
MUCH ESTIMATE BASED ON SQUARE

FOOTAGE FOR THE PARK, SQUARE  
FOOTAGE FOR THE LESS PROGRAM  
GRASS AREAS, SQUARE FOOTAGE FOR  
THE FIELDS AS WELL AS  
PLAYGROUNDS.

IT IS QUITE A LARGE FACILITY.  
OVER 120,000 SQUARE FEET.  
WHEN WE COMPARE TO OTHER PARK  
PROJECTS IT ENCOMPASSES MUCH  
LARGER AREA.  
WE DON'T HAVE DETAILED.  
WHAT ABOUT VALUE ENGINEERING?  
I WANT TO SAY THIS IS  
APPROPRIATION LOOKING AT MOVING  
THIS PROJECT FORWARD.  
WE CONTINUE TO LOOK AT HOW DO WE  
DO THIS MOST COST-EFFECTIVE WAY  
AND APPRECIATE THE OVERALL SIZE  
OF THE PROJECT.  
MUCH MORE COMPREHENSIVE THAN  
JUST THE FIELDS.  
>> ANY QUESTIONS ON AHERN.  
COUNCILOR TONNER THEN WILSON.  
JUST ON AHERN.  
>> Councilor Toner: I WANT TO  
SAY IN THE MINORITY.  
THESE ARE THE THINGS I HAVE NO  
PROBLEM SPENDING MONEY ON.  
GETTING AHEAD OF PROBLEMS.  
I AM THE ONE THAT BROUGHT THE  
POLICY ORDER IN ABOUT THE DANEHY  
FIELD TO PLAN GOING FORWARD FOR  
THE THINGS WE NEED TO DO FOR THE  
FIELD HAVING IT BE 30 YEARS OLD.  
NOT THAT LONG AGO THE STAFF WAS  
CRUCIFIED BECAUSE TREES WERE  
DYING AT THE FIELD BECAUSE  
IRRIGATION WAS BROKEN.  
WE NEED TO STAY AHEAD OF THESE  
THINGS.  
I SUPPORT USING OUR FINANCES TO  
SUPPORT PARKS AND OUTDOOR  
SPACES.  
THIS IS SOMETHING EVERYBODY IN  
THE CITY GETS TO USE AND ENJOY.  
AS FAR AS AHERN FIELD.  
IT NEEDS WORK.  
WE HER FROM PEOPLE ASKING US TO  
UPDATE THE FIELDS.  
THE STAFF PUT A LOT OF THOUGHT

FOR THE BIGGEST BANG FOR THE  
BUCK.

I DON'T WANT TO JUST HERE CUT,  
CUT, CUT.

WE ARE TRYING TO BE CAREFUL WITH  
THE BUDGET THESE ARE THINGS  
RESIDENTS DESERVE AND  
APPRECIATE.

NOT AN AREA I WOULD WANT TO BE  
OVERLY FRUGAL ON.

WITH THAT I YIELD.

THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILOR WILSON.

>> THIS PARK IS IN NEED OF?  
REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENT FOR THE  
VARIOUS REASONS WHY THIS PARK IS  
USED.

FOR HOCKEY, FOR SOCCER, FOR  
BASKETBALL, FOR JUST PLAY.

THIS PARK IS REALLY JUST LIKE --  
IT IS A WONDERFUL PARK.

I AM GLAD WE ARE INVESTING  
DOLLARS INTO THIS PARK AND AREA.  
I AM NOT IN THE PARK REPAIR WORK  
SO I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH IS TOO  
MUCH.

I DO KNOW THE CAMBRIDGE WAY IS  
TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND.

I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US  
TO THINK ABOUT AND LOOK AT WHAT  
WE CAN DO IF WE CAN DO MORE WITH  
SLIGHTLY LESS WHAT DOES THAT  
LOOK LIKE IN ORDER TO STILL GET  
QUALITY WE NEED TO MAKE A  
PLAYGROUND THAT CAN LAST 30 PLUS  
YEARS OR WHAT DOES MAINTENANCE  
IN BETWEEN LOOK LIKE SO WE CAN  
BE MINDFUL OF THAT OVER THE  
YEARS BECAUSE I RECOGNIZE WHEN  
WE DON'T MAINTAIN PARKS WE HAVE  
TO INVEST SIGNIFICANT DOLLAR  
AMOUNT.

AHERN, DANEHY IS ANOTHER.

WHEN WE NEGLECT THE PARKS WE  
HAVE TO INVEST SIGNIFICANT  
DOLLARS.

I HOPE WE ARE THINKING ABOUT THE ONGOING MAINTENANCE SO WE DON'T GET INTO MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR RENOVATIONS.

WHILE I SUPPORT THE RENOVATION. IF WE LOOK AT GRADE A QUALITY MATERIALS. WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE FOR A MINUS OR B? AGAIN, I THINK COUNCILOR TONER'S POINT.

I RECOGNIZE YOU ARE DOING THE WORK AND UNDERSTAND WE ARE IN A FINANCIAL TIGHTNESS HERE WHERE WE NEED TO BE WISER WITH HOW WE SPEND DOLLARS.

I WANT TO APPRECIATE AND REALLY BELIEF THAT YOU ARE ALL DOING THAT AND RECOGNIZING 7.5 IS QUITE A STEEP INVESTMENT. JUST THINKING WHAT ARE THE LONG-TERM GOALS NOT ONLY FOR USAGE OF THE PARK BUT FOR MAINTENANCE.

>> A COUPLE POINTS. GOOD POINTS, COUNCILOR WILSON. THIS IS CHANGING CONVERSATION FOR ALL OF US. THESE ARE CONVERSATIONS. THIS IS WHAT WE ASSUMED OR BUILT-UP TO ASSUME THAT AND WE NEED TO KEEP REVISITING THAT. THESE ARE GOOD CONVERSATIONS TO MAKE SURE WE ARE EMBEDDING THE INNER PLANNING.

IN TERMS OF MAINTENANCE ONE OF THE CAPITAL BUDGETS IS THE DPW PARKS. IN THE CAPITAL OF \$1.2 MILLION. THAT IS REALLY DRIVING THOSE. NOT A NAMING OR TIME TO RENOVATE THE PROJECT BUT WE KNOW EQUIPMENT IS OUT-OF-DATE OR IS BROKEN WE NEED TO REPLACE OR

RESURFACE.

THE SMALL LIKE DANEHY HUNDRED  
THOUSAND HEAVY MAINTENANCE, NOT  
FULL RENOVATION.

WE TALKED ABOUT MAKING SURE AS  
WE LOOK TO SLOW DOWN SOME OF THE  
PARK PROJECTS WE NEED TO MAKE  
SURE WE FUND THAT HEAVY  
MAINTENANCE BUCKET SO WE CAN  
HAVE THOSE CONVERSATIONS.

WE CAN REPLACE EQUIPMENT OR  
SURFACING CAN WE GET ANOTHER  
FIVE OR 10 YEARS OUT OF THIS  
PROJECT?

SLOWING DOWN CAPITAL SIDE AND  
MAKING SURE WE LOOK AT HEAVY  
MAINTENANCE SIDE.

>> JUST TO FOLLOW UP AND I BRING  
THIS FORWARD, THE MANAGER  
MENTIONED THE KALO SCHOOL ALONG  
WITH THE PARK.

TWO FOR ONE FOR THE DOLLAR.  
DO WE HAVE THIS OUT FORBID?  
DO WE HAVE NOT A DEVELOPER OR  
PERSON OR COMPANY THAT WE KNOW  
IS GOING TO DO THIS PROJECT?

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.  
WE ARE IN THE PROCESS HIRING A  
CONTRACTOR.

GETTING SCHOOL RE-OPENED IS  
IMPORTANT THING TO DO.  
WE ARE TRYING TO GET THIS  
PROJECT OUT TO BID AS QUICKLY AS  
POSSIBLE.

WE STARTED PROCESS.  
WE HAVE NOBODY ESSENTIALLY HIRED  
AT THIS POINT IN TIME.  
WE EXPECT TO HIRE A CONSULTANT  
AND THEN MOVE FROM THERE TO  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR ON BOARD.

>> MY FINAL QUESTION IS LENGTH  
OF TIME.

WHEN WE HAVE THIS PROJECT  
MANAGER ON, CONTRACTORS WERE

GOOD TO GO.  
HOW LONG WILL THIS PARK BE SHUT  
DOWN BEFORE IT CAN BE RE-OPENED  
AND OPERATIONAL FOR THE PUBLIC  
TO USE?  
>> TWO SIDES.  
BUILDING AND PARK SIDE.  
CATHY CAN TALK ABOUT PARK SIDE.  
BUILDING SIDE MAY TAKE A YEAR  
AND A HALF TO GET BUILDING BACK  
INTO SHAPE.  
PRIMARY REASON IS TRYING TO  
PURCHASE HVAC EQUIPMENT.  
MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT TAKES A  
LONG TIME TO PROCURE AT THIS  
POINT IN TIME.

WE ARE TRYING TO HURRY UP TO GET  
ORDERS IN FOR MECHANICAL  
EQUIPMENT TO HAVE THAT IN TIMELY  
BASIS.  
CATHY IF YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO  
THE PARK.  
>> WHAT I WOULD SAY WE DON'T  
HAVE DESIGN.  
IT IS IN THIS PHASE OF WE HAVE  
GENERAL SCOPE AND UNDERSTAND  
THAT THESE PROJECTS TAKE 12-18  
MONTHS.  
WEATHER DEPENDENT.  
SOMETIMES IT CAN BE PHASED SO  
PIECES OF THE PARK CAN STAY  
OPEN.  
THAT LENGTHENS AMOUNT OF TIME.  
DURING DESIGN WE WILL HAVE  
CONVERSATIONS IS IT BENEFICIAL  
TO KEEP THE PARK OPEN OR  
SLOWDOWN THE OVERALL SCHEDULE  
AND NOT MAKE SENSE?  
THAT IS SOMETHING TO WORK WITH.  
ONE OF THE THINGS WE DIDN'T TALK  
ABOUT IS COLLABORATING WITH THE  
CAPITAL BUILDING GROUP AND DPW  
AND CDD LOOKING AT DESIGN OF THE  
PARK TO MAKE SURE.



WE TALKED ABOUT THINGS WHAT  
PEOPLE WANT TO SEE.  
WE NEED COMMUNITY CONVERSATION  
AND ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITY TO  
UNDERSTAND THE IMPROVEMENTS TO  
SUPPORT SCHOOL POPULATION AS  
WELL AS NEIGHBORHOOD.  
>> COUNCILOR NOLAN MADE THIS  
POINT AROUND THE COMMUNITY  
BENEFITS WE HAVE THE  
CONVERSATION ON TUESDAY  
REGARDING THE FUNDS COMING IN  
FROM BIOMED.  
ARE WE INVESTING THOSE DOLLARS  
TO HELP WITH THIS PROJECT AT  
ALL?  
>> ON TUESDAY ORDINANCE  
COMMITTEE WILL MEET TO DETERMINE  
WHAT TO ALLOCATE \$23 MILLION  
BENEFIT THAT IS PROPOSED FROM  
BIOMED.  
ASSUMING ZONING IS APPROVED.

CURRENTLY THERE IS LETTER  
AGREEMENT STATES \$500,000 TO BE  
SPENT TOWARDS OPEN SPACE.  
TIMING OF THAT DOESN'T ALIGN  
WITH OUR NEEDS.  
BECAUSE WE WANT TO MOVE FORWARD  
QUICKLY TO ALIGN WITH SCHOOL  
RECONSTRUCTION.  
WE DON'T SEE THAT AS VALUABLE.  
WE APPRECIATE THE CONTRIBUTION.  
WHAT PART OF THE CONVERSATION ON  
TUESDAY HOW BEST TO ALLOCATE  
THAT BASED ON THE CITY'S NEEDS.  
>> THANK YOU.  
I YIELD.  
>> Councilor Nolan: QUESTIONS ON  
AHERN?  
WE BLENDED INTO THE SCHOOL.  
THIS PARK IS ABOUT WHAT TO DO TO  
ENSURE WE ARE IN A CHALLENGING  
TIME.  
AS I HAVE BEEN ON THE RECORD

COMPARING US TO OTHERS, THERE IS  
SOMETHING I SENT TO THE CITY  
EARLIER.

THIS GETS TO THE SPECIFIC  
QUESTION ON THE WILDER LEE  
PLAYGROUND.

I HAD COMMUNICATION BASED ON  
DRAINAGE ISSUES ON THAT PARK.

THIS WAS TWO MONTHS AGO.

THIS YEAR WAS THAT THE SMALL  
AREA OF THE PARK WAS NOT CAUSING  
FLOODING ISSUES.

IMPROVEMENTS MADE SEVERAL YEARS  
FROM NOW.

SURPRISE TO SEE MONEY SPENT ON  
THAT PLAY GROUND AS WELL AS  
OTHERS GIVEN THAT HAD BEEN  
ANTICIPATED TO BE SOMETHING THAT  
WOULD BE SEVERAL YEARS AWAY.

JUST CURIOUS AS TO HOW THIS  
ENDED UP BEING FORWARDED BECAUSE  
I HAD SPECIFIC IN FACT STELLAR  
STAFF MET, AND TALKED AND  
REPORTED BACK ABOUT THE  
CONDITIONS OF THAT PARK.

>> THANK YOU, CHAIR NOLAN.

WILDER LEE AND 359 BROADWAY ARE  
IDENTIFIED ON OPEN SPACE CAPITAL

PLAN.

LAST YEAR WE RECEIVED \$500,000  
IN FUNDING IT HAS BEEN SLATED TO  
BE RENOVATED ON THIS TIMELINE.  
WE RECOGNIZE THERE ARE A LOT OF  
CONDITION NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED.

>> Councilor Nolan: IT SOUNDS  
LIKE THERE WASN'T COMMUNICATION  
THAT WENT TO THE PARK TO ENSURE  
FLOODING WASN'T A CONCERN.

>> WHAT WE LOOKED AT IS WE  
TALKED ABOUT SHOULD THERE BE  
INDEPENDENT WE NEED TO DO  
SOMETHING IMMEDIATELY WITH  
DRAINAGE?

THAT WAS NOT THE BEST SOLUTION.

WE LOOKED AT IT, EVALUATED IT.  
THERE ARE IMPROVEMENTS TO BE  
MADE WHEN THE PARK IS  
RECONSTRUCTED.  
IT IS BETTER TO DO IT AS PART OF  
OVERALL THINKING OF THE PARK.  
THAT BACK AREA IS USED HEAVILY  
BY DOGS.  
IT HAS GOTTEN VERY DETERIORATED  
AND THAT CONTRIBUTING TO  
DRAINAGE AREAS.  
EVEN THOUGH FUNDING WOULD BE  
AVAILABLE IF APPROVED IN 26.  
CONSTRUCTION WOULD NOT START  
IMMEDIATELY.  
JUST WANTED TO BE REALISTIC WITH  
THE NEIGHBOR ABOUT THE TIMING.  
FUNDED WOULD BE IDENTIFIED.  
CONSTRUCTION WOULD NOT START  
IMMEDIATELY.  
DIDN'T BE WANT PEOPLE TO THINK  
FUNDING IS THERE.  
WITH THIS ONE, TO BE CLEAR, THE  
TWO DIFFERENT OPEN SPACES.  
THEY ARE HEAVILY USED BY  
PRESCHOOLS.  
I THINK NOT EXACTLY SOME OF THE  
MOST EXCITING OR INTERESTING  
EQUIPMENT.  
EXTREMELY HEAVILY USED NOT IN  
GREAT CONDITION.  
THAT IS WHY IT IS PRIORITIZED.  
>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU.  
DISCREPANCY TO CLEAR UP.

NOT TO GET TOO PERSONAL.  
SINCE I WENT BE INTO LABOR AT  
THE FIELD PLAYING SOFTBALL.  
I AM FAMILIAR WITH THE PARK AND  
KNOW IT IS WELL USED.  
MANY YEARS AGO.  
MY KIDS ARE IN THEIR 20s.  
WHEN I GO BY THE FIELD I  
REMEMBER THAT.  
SO YOU KNOW.

SOMEONE WENT INTO LABOR.  
I DID NOT DELIVER THERE.  
I DID MAKE IT TO THE HOSPITAL.  
ON PARKS WE WANT THE BEST FOR  
STUDENTS.  
I THINK COUNCILOR WILSON SAID  
IT.  
SINCE WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO  
FUND OTHER THINGS IN NEED.  
I JUST ENCOURAGE US AND THIS IS  
SOMETHING I HAD SENT TO THE  
STAFF THAT JUST LAST YEAR A PARK  
IN MIDFIELD COST \$550,000 WHICH  
WAS ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUND THAT  
LOOKS AS BIG AS OUR PLAYGROUND  
NEAR DANEHY PARK.  
THAT WAS ONE TENTH OF OUR  
PLAYGROUND WITH ACCESSIBILITY  
AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN FEATURES  
FOR KIDS OF ALL ABILITIES.  
I KNOW CONSTRUCTION COSTS ARE  
CHALLENGING.  
I THINK SOME OF IT WE ARE IN A  
DIFFERENT STAGE AND NEED TO SEND  
THE MESSAGE WE CAN NO LONGER DO  
THIS.  
IN OUR SCHOOL BUILDINGS AS WELL,  
WE WANT SILVER AND GOLD LEVEL  
BUT MAYBE DON'T NEED PLATINUM  
AND THE TITANIUM.  
IT IS MORE LIKE COST UNDERSTAND  
WE WANT TO ADDRESS SAFETY.  
I WANTED TO PUT THAT OUT THERE.  
HAPPY TO SEND THIS INFORMATION  
HINKLEY PARK IN MEDFIELD TO  
VISIT.  
COUNCILOR WILSON.  
>> Councilor Wilson: I WONDER IF  
PRICES GET INFLATED BECAUSE IT  
IS CAMBRIDGE.

WE ARE A WEALTHY COMMUNITY.  
>> I WAS THINKING ABOUT WHEN YOU  
WERE SPEAKING ABOUT EXAMPLES OF  
PARKS AND COSTS PER SQUARE

FOOTAGE.

I WOULD SAY THERE ARE A COUPLE  
SPECIFIC THINGS ABOUT CAMBRIDGE  
THAT DRIVE PRICES.

MORE THAN CAMBRIDGE TO CHARGE  
MORE.

WE GO THROUGH PUBLIC BIDDING  
PROCESS.

IF THERE IS MONEY AT LOWER PRICE  
SOMEONE ELSE WOULD PUT THAT IN.

WHAT I WOULD FOCUS ON, YOU THINK  
ABOUT SOIL CONDITIONS AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS.

UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND BUILT ON  
FORMER DUMP.

PART OF THAT PROJECT AND EVERY  
SQUARE INCH OF CAMBRIDGE IS  
VALUABLE IT IS WORTH IT.

OTHERS MAY CHOOSE TO LEAVE THAT  
AND BUILD THAT SOMEWHERE ELSE.

IT WAS METHANE THAT IS PRODUCED  
FROM DETERIORATING DUMP  
MATERIAL.

THAT IS THE SPECIFICS OF DANEHY.  
IN OTHER LOCATIONS WHERE THEY  
ARE NOT COMPLICATED YOU HAVE  
URBAN FILL AND SOIL CONDITIONS  
THAT HAVE TO BE PROPERLY MANAGED  
AND DISPOSED OF.

THERE ARE ADDITIONAL COSTS THAN  
IF YOU ARE IN A SUBURBAN LESS  
DEVELOPED AREA.

WE HAVE CHALLENGES WITH PEOPLE  
COMING TO THE CITY AND TRAFFIC  
AND GETTING CONCRETE AND GETTING  
PARKING FOR THE WORKERS AND ALL  
OF THOSE THINGS MAKE IT  
CHALLENGING.

IT MAKES CAMBRIDGE GREAT AND  
CHALLENGING TO DO THE WORK.

A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC URBAN  
CONDITIONS THAT DO INCREASE.  
NOT AREAS FOR STAGING.

THEY CAN'T FIND WHEN WE DO  
PROJECTS WE DON'T HAVE.

THIS IS A TWO ACRE AREA TO STAGE

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS.  
THEY BRING IN MATERIALS WEEKLY  
INSTEAD OF MONTHLY.  
THERE ARE ABSOLUTELY A LOT OF  
THINGS ABOUT CAMBRIDGE THAT  
DRIVE TO THOSE COSTS.  
>> Councilor Wilson: THANK YOU.  
GREAT POINT TO SHARE THAT AND BE  
TRANSPARENT.  
THE OTHER QUESTION IN REGARD TO  
TIMELINE OF VARIOUS PARKS.  
HOW DO WE DETERMINE WHICH PARK  
IS NEXT?  
WHICH IS IN DIRE NEED, PUT IT ON  
THE LIST?  
>> IN 2022 WE UPDATED OPEN SPACE  
NEEDS ASSESSMENT.  
WE LOOKED AT VARIETY OF FACTORS.  
PARK CONDITION BEING ONE THAT  
WAS CRITICAL.  
WE LOOKED AT PARK ACCESS AND  
DISTRIBUTION.  
HOW ACTIVELY USED IT IS.  
WHAT PARK IS NEEDED FOR THOSE  
COMMUNITIES.  
PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL  
BENEFITS TO LEVERAGE PARKS TO  
HELP WITH HEAT AND FLOODING  
IMPACTS IN THE CITY.  
THROUGH THAT PRIORITIZATION WE  
CAME UP WITH A CAPITAL PLAN.  
THAT HAS BEEN INFORMING OUR  
BONDING SCHEDULE AND PARK  
SCHEDULE.  
AS CATHY MENTIONED EARLIER, WE  
OUTLINED WHAT IS THE NEXT  
PRIORITY PARKS.  
THEN WE THINK ABOUT HOW CAN WE  
BOND THAT TO MANAGE TAX RATE.  
WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REDUCE WHAT  
WE WERE EXPECTING TO BOND  
SIGNIFICANTLY WHILE MOVING UP  
PROJECTS RECOGNIZING THE  
OPPORTUNITY OF NEED.  
>> Councilor Nolan: COUNCILOR

SIDDIQUI.

>> Councilor Siddiqui: I WANT TO  
STICK TO PARKS.  
I WANTED TO SAY THAT I SUPPORT  
THE ALLOCATION.

I THINK IT WAS UNDERSTANDING THE  
COSTS BEHIND IT AND THE FEEDBACK  
WOULD BE MORE INFORMATION ON THE  
PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS.

I THINK UNDERSTANDING THE  
BREAKDOWN OF SUCH A HUGE  
PROJECT.

HOW MUCH GOES TO THE FIELD, HOW  
MUCH TO THE PLAYGROUNDS?  
PEOPLE ASK.

WE WANT TO KNOW.

I THINK WHAT YOU ARE HEARING  
FROM MAJORITY OF US.

ANY COST SAVINGS WE WOULD LOVE  
TO SEE IT.

I IMAGINE YOU DO, TOO.

PARTICULARLY WAS WE HAVE THESE  
CONVERSATIONS AS MY COLLEAGUES  
HAVE SAID, WE WANT TO BE MINDFUL  
OF THAT.

I DO THINK IT IS GREAT WE SPEND  
SO MUCH ON THESE SERVICES AND  
OPEN SPACE AND SO FORTH.

THESE ARE BIG PRICE TAGS, AS WE  
THINK ABOUT OUR OVERALL CAPITAL  
BUDGET.

I WANT TO PUT ON THE RECORD TO  
SAY I SUPPORT IT.

COUNCIL WILL FIGURE OUT WHAT TO  
DO WITH BIOMED.

THAT IS SEPARATE WITH THAT  
ALLOCATION.

THIS WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE  
PRIORITY THAT CAME UP AND THE  
RATIONALE ON WHY YOU WANT TO DO  
IT NOW MAKES SENSE.

THANK YOU.

>> Councilor Nolan: VICE MAYOR  
McGOVERN.

>> Vice Mayor McGovern: ON  
RECORD, I SUPPORT THIS AS WELL.  
SORRY IF I MISSED THIS  
PREVIOUSLY. SOCCER FIELD IS  
REMAINING.  
IS IT TURF?  
>> AGAIN, WE WOULD HAVE  
COMMUNITY DISCUSSION ABOUT THE  
DESIGN, BUT THE INTENTION IS AND  
THE BUDGET ACCOUNTS FOR  
REMAINING SOCCER FIELD BEING

TURF THAT WOULD SUPPORT  
ADDITIONAL USAGE ON THAT FIELD.

>> Vice Mayor McGovern: THERE  
USED TO BE A NUMBER OF SOCCER  
FIELDS IN EAST CAMBRIDGE WHEN I  
WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL.  
VARSITY AND JV PLAYED IN  
CAMBRIDGE.  
SOCCER FIELD IS IMPORTANT AND  
TURF HELPS WITH MAINTENANCE.  
GRASS GETS OVER USED AND CHEWED  
UP.

ON RECORD I SUPPORT THIS.  
THANK YOU.  
I YIELD.

>> Councilor Nolan: COUNCILOR  
ZUSY.

>> Councilor Zusy: I WANT TO  
REPEAT.  
WE WANT THE CITY TO INVEST IN  
MAINTENANCE OF OPEN SPACES AND  
BUILDINGS.

IF WE DO THAT IT WILL BE MUCH  
LESS EXPENSIVE THAN TO HAVE TO  
REDO ALL OF THESE THINGS.  
I HOPE WE CAN FIGURE OUT SOME  
WAY TO ENGAGE YOUTH IN WORK  
FORCE DEVELOPMENT.  
I WISH WE COULD TRAIN THEM TO  
HELP REPLACE -- NOT REPLACE BUT  
MAINTAIN BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.  
THAT WOULD BE TO THE GREAT  
BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.



IT WOULD BE GREAT FOR YOUTH.  
A WAY FOR THEM TO CONTRIBUTE TO  
THE CITY AND REALLY A VERY, VERY  
MEANINGFUL WAY.  
MOVING RIGHT ALONG.  
I HAD COMPLETE STREETS  
QUESTIONS.  
>> Councilor Nolan: WE ARE DONE  
WITH PARKS.  
I WANTED TO ASK ABOUT THE BLUE  
BIKES.  
TWO ALLOCATIONS ONE FREE CASH  
\$250,000.  
THE OTHER IS \$100,000 FOR  
e-BIKES OUT OF PROPERTY TAXES  
ON BLUE BIKES PAGE ALSO V-41 AND  
43.

TOTAL V7.  
I THOUGHT MUCH OF THE BLUE BIKE  
IS PAID FOR OUT OF REVENUES OR  
SPONSORSHIPS.  
EXPLAIN WHAT THE OVERALL  
ECONOMICS OF BLUE BIKE SYSTEM  
IS.  
IF THIS REPORT IS DONE ON THE  
ENTIRE SYSTEM AND THE CITY  
CONTRIBUTION VERSUS BOTH  
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES, LET  
ME KNOW AND YOU CAN SEND IT  
LATER.  
I LOVE BLUE BIKES.  
I KNOW IT IS UP TO A MILLION  
USERS.  
I WANTED TO UNDERSTAND THE  
FUNDING SOURCES.  
>> THE BLUE BIKES FUNDING IS  
COMBINATION OF SOURCES WHICH I  
WOULD BE HAPPY TO AS YOU  
MENTIONED GIVE YOU A FULLER  
REPORT LATER.  
THIS PARTICULAR ASK IS FOR US  
JUST MAKING SURE OLDER STATIONS  
ARE REPLACED.  
THE STATIONS USED YEAR AROUND

WHICH CAMBRIDGE HAS.  
THEY ONLY LAST ABOUT 10 YEARS.  
WE ARE ASKING FOR SOME  
REPLACEMENT FUNDING TO JUST KEEP  
THE SYSTEM IN THE STATE OF GOOD  
REPAIR.  
FOR A FULLER PICTURE OF THE FULL  
BLUE BIKES FUNDING SCENARIO I  
WOULD BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE THAT  
TO YOU LATER.  
>> Councilor Nolan: THAT MIGHT  
BE GOOD USE OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING.  
SUCH A KEY PART OF OUR CITY.  
WE HAVE HAD IT NOW FOR A NUMBER  
OF YEARS AND TOTALLY THRILLED  
THAT e-BIKES ARE IN THE SYSTEM  
AND PART OF THIS SECOND  
ALLOCATION I RECOGNIZE FOR  
e-BIKES.  
THANKS.  
UNLESS THERE ARE ANY OTHER

QUESTIONS ON THE BIKES.  
>> I WAS GREAT TO SEE  
\$1.2 MILLION REFERENCED BY  
COMMISSIONER WATKINS.  
QUESTION ABOUT THE ELECTRICAL  
REPAIRS HEALEY BUILDING.  
THIS IS ON PAGE V-47.  
ARE WE POSITIONING THAT BUILDING  
TO BE FULLY ELECTRIFIED?  
LINE WITH REGULATIONS AND  
EVENTUALLY MOVING TO AND I DON'T  
KNOW ELECTRICAL NEEDS.  
SINCE WE ARE DOING ELECTRICAL  
UPGRADES HOW DOES THAT PROVIDE  
US FULL ELECTRIFICATION.  
>> THEY ARE TO ALLOW THE  
BUILDING TO FUNCTION  
APPROPRIATELY.  
AS WE THINK ABOUT  
ELECTRIFICATION OVERALL.  
OBVIOUSLY, THAT BUILDING IS MORE

SIGNIFICANT IN TERMS OF USAGE OF FOSSIL-FUELS.

IT IS ALSO ONE OF THE MORE COMPLICATED BUILDINGS IN TERMS OF FOSSIL-FUELS.

OUR EXPECTATION WE WILL SPEND MORE MONEY ON THAT BUILDING ELECTRIFYING IT.

MY EXPECTATION THAT IS NOT THE FIRST BUILDING WE DO.

WE ARE LOOKING AT OTHER BUILDINGS, FEASIBILITY STUDIES IN TERMS OF THAT AND THE PROGRAM THIS YEAR PROVIDES FUNDING TO BEGIN FEASIBILITY OF DESIGN WORK OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AS WELL AS OTHER BUILDINGS.

HOWEVER, I WOULD SAY THAT THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING GIVEN 24 HOUR BUILDING WITH EQUIPMENT THAT HAS TO REMAIN ON ALL OF THE TIME IS MOST CHALLENGING IN ALL BUILDINGS IN TERMS OF ELECTRIFYING.

WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE IT ON AT SOME POINT IN TIME BUT NOT IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

>> Councilor Nolan: ANYTIME YOU DO ELECTRICAL WORK LIKE A HOUSE

IF YOU UPGRADE, THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE THAT IS COMING AND IT IS HERE.

DID YOU WANT TO ADD TO THAT COMMISSIONER WATKINS?

THERE ARE SEVERAL ELECTRICAL QUESTIONS AND FORESTRY AND PARKS.

SEWER SEPARATION AND SNOW AND THEN TWO VERY LARGE ONES.

\$27 MILLION AND I BELIEVE THAT IS SEWERS, RIGHT?

IT IS LISTED UNDER PUBLIC WORKS AND STREETS.

IT IS FOR SEWER WORK IN THE

ENTIRE.  
COMPLETE STREETS RECONSTRUCTION  
WHICH COUNCILOR ZUSY HAD A  
QUESTION ABOUT.  
\$21.9 MILLION ON PAGE V-64.  
>> Councilor Zusy: I HAVE  
QUESTIONS ABOUT STORMWATER  
MANAGEMENT?  
>> Councilor Nolan: WE ARE IN  
THIS WHOLE SECTION BEFORE US.  
>> Councilor Zusy: I DID HAVE  
MEETING WITH COMMISSIONER  
WATKINS AND COMMISSIONER WILCOX  
LAST WEEK.  
THIS HAS TO DO WITH THE -- WHICH  
PAGE IS IT?  
RELATING TO SHOULD THE MWRA PAY  
FOR SOME OF THIS?  
THIS MUST RELATE TO  
\$51.5 MILLION AND \$5.3 MILLION.  
SHOULD THEY PAY FOR SOME OF THAT  
RELATING TO STORMWATER  
MANAGEMENT?  
WHERE IS THAT?  
>> IF YOU GO TO VI-56 WHERE THE  
SEWER OVERFLOW DISCUSSION IS.  
CSO, AS WE CALL IT.  
IT HAS BIGGER NUMBERS THAN THE  
OTHER CSO.  
IN MANY WAYS LESS DISCUSSED IN  
THE CITY.  
I THINK AS FOLKS KNOW WE ARE  
CURRENTLY WORKING ON COMBINED  
SEWER OVERFLOW PLAN LOOKING AT  
CONTINUING TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS

IN SEWER AND DRAINAGE PLANS OVER  
NEXT 20 TO 30 YEARS.  
AS PART OF THAT PROCESS WE ARE  
ACTIVELY WORKING WITH MWRA AND  
SUMMERVILLE.  
WHAT ARE THE RIGHT STRATEGIES,  
HOW DO WE MAKE IMPROVEMENTS?  
THEY ARE CONNECTED SO WE NEED TO  
DO THE WORK TOGETHER.

NOW WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE RIGHT PROJECTS, RIGHT THINGS TO GET THE BIGGEST IMPROVEMENT AND BE COST-EFFECTIVE AND HAVE OTHER CO-BENEFITS.

RANGE OF WAYS TO EVALUATE THAT. WHAT WE SEE IN THIS BUDGET IS PUTTING IN NUMBERS BECAUSE WE KNOW IT IS A SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL COMMITMENT.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO WORK ON EXACTLY WHAT THOSE DETAILED PROJECTS ARE.

AS PART OF THAT WE WILL ABSOLUTELY BE WORKING ON WHAT OF THAT COMES BACK TO THE CITY AND WHAT DOES THE MWRA FUND? PREVIOUS CSO WORK CITY FUNDED PORTION AND SO DID MWRA.

IT WAS A PARTNERSHIP.

WE LOOK TO CONTINUE THAT AND WILL ADVOCATE FOR THAT.

AGAIN, DRAFT PLAN IS DUE THE END OF THIS YEAR AND FINAL PLAN ABOUT A YEAR LATER.

THAT IS THE WORK CURRENTLY ONGOING.

WE DON'T HAVE A FINAL ANSWER FOR THAT.

IT IS PART OF THE WORK GOING ON WITH THAT PLAN.

>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU SO MUCH.

TO BE CLEAR THIS IS V1, 56 AND 58.

WE HAVE IN BUDGETED IN THE CAPITAL PLAN.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN ALL COMES FROM CITY BUDGET SOME MAY COME FROM MWRA?

>> IT IS TO BE DETERMINED WE

WANT TO MAKE SURE.

THIS TIES BACK TO SEWER RATE.

ALL FUNDING ON THE CSO IS OUT OF

THE SEWER RATE.  
WE WANT TO PROJECT FOR STABLE  
SEWER RATE INCREASES.  
INSTEAD OF GOING TO CONSISTENT  
SEWER RATE INCREASE.  
IF YOU LOOK AROUND AT OTHER  
MUNICIPALITIES PEOPLE HAVE HAD  
25 AND 40% SEWER RATE INCREASES  
IN A SINGLE YEAR.  
WE WANT TO THINK FORWARD ABOUT  
THAT.  
THE SECOND PIECE YOU ARE TALKING  
ABOUT ON 6-58 IS MITIGATION  
MONEY THAT CAME IN.  
THAT IS MONEY DEVELOPERS PAID TO  
THE CITY BECAUSE IT IS PART OF  
THEIR DEVELOPMENT.  
THEY HAVE CONTRIBUTE TO  
REMOVING STORMWATER FLOW OUT OF  
THE SEWER SYSTEM SO THEIR  
ADDITIONAL SEWAGE FLOW DOES NOT  
COMPROMISE THE OVERALL SYSTEM.  
WHEN WE WORK WITH DEVELOPERS  
WEEKLY SOMETIMES IT IS  
INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS DOING THE  
WORK AND SOMETIMES CONTRIBUTING  
FUNDING FOR PROJECTS WE CAN DO  
BETTER.  
THEN WE CAN COMBINE FUNDS FROM  
DIFFERENT PHASES AND DO WORK.  
THAT \$5.3 MILLION IS FROM A  
DEVELOPER.  
IT GOES THROUGH MITIGATION  
PROCESS.  
>> Councilor Zusy: I SHOULD HAVE  
NOTED NUMBERS OF PAGES WITH MY  
QUESTIONS.  
I WAS SURPRISED WE WERE ASKING  
FOR ADDITIONAL \$9.5 MILLION FOR  
REPLACING WATER MAIN UNDER MASS  
AVENUE THAT IS PART OF  
\$50 MILLION PROJECT.  
WHY WASN'T REPLACING THE WATER  
MAIN PART OF THE INITIAL SPEC  
FOR THE PROJECT.  
>> WE ARE GOING THROUGH THE  
DESIGN FOR THE PROJECT ON MASS

AVENUE.

WE ARE STILL EVALUATING  
CONDITION OF UTILITIES, BOTH  
WATER MAINS AND SEWER AND  
DRAINAGE SYSTEM UNDER MASS  
HEAVY.

WHERE WE DON'T FULLY KNOW THE  
CONDITION YET WE INCLUDED THAT  
REQUEST FOR A FUTURE YEAR?

>> IT IS AN OUTER YEAR. IT  
SHOULD BE UNDER SEWER OR WATER  
RATE.

IT IS UNDER GENERAL TAX RATE AND  
SHOULD BE SHIFTED TO SEWER RATE.

>> Councilor Zusy: IT MAY BE  
BENEFICIAL FOR MY COLLEAGUES TO  
HEAR A SHORT SUMMARY.

I HAD ASKED COMMISSIONER WATKINS  
WHY SO MUCH INVESTMENT IN  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT NOW?

THERE IS A CONCERN ABOUT  
FLOODING AND WE ARE TRYING TO BE  
PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE.

THERE IS DEVELOPMENT AND WE HAVE  
OLD INFRASTRUCTURE.

IT WAS VERY HELPFUL TO ME TO  
HEAR YOU SAY THIS IS AN ONGOING  
EXPENSE.

MAYBE YOU CAN SPEAK TO THAT.

ONE QUESTION.

IT HAS THE COST OF THIS WORK IF  
WE HAVE BEEN DOING IT ALL ALONG.  
I UNDERSTAND WE HAVE BEEN DOING  
A LOT SINCE THE 1970s.

DID IT COST SO MUCH THEN THIS IS  
THERE WERE THE COST HAS GONE UP  
EXPONENTIALLY?

>> A COUPLE THOUGHTS.

ONE THIS IS INVESTMENT IN  
INFRASTRUCTURE.

MUCH OVER 100 YEARS OLD.

WHEN WE LOOK AT WATER, SEWER  
MAINS WE ARE LOOKING AT  
INFRASTRUCTURE OVER 100 YEARS

OLD.  
WHAT WE ARE REPLACING IS QUITE  
OLD.  
THAT IS CONSISTENT I FROM  
STRUCTURE INVESTMENT PLAN.  
WE TALK ABOUT INVESTING IN

BUILDINGS.  
WE NEED TO CONTINUALLY INVEST IN  
OUR INFRASTRUCTURE.  
THAT HAS BEEN CONTINUAL PROGRAM.  
WE HAVE DONE SEWER SEPARATION  
FOR DECADES.  
WEST CAMBRIDGE SEWER SEPARATION  
UNDER FIRST CSO PLAN WITH NUMBER  
OF LEGALLY REQUIRED PROJECTS  
INCLUDING WEST CAMBRIDGE SEWER  
SEPARATION WHICH COST OVER  
\$250 MILLION WHEN YOU LOOK AT  
THE FULL PROGRAM.  
ONCE THAT COURT ORDERED WORK  
ENDED WE SPENT TIME SAYING WHAT  
SHOULD BE THE NEXT FOCUS.  
WE REALLY HAVE PRIORITIZED THE  
PORT FROM ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE  
PERSPECTIVE AND IT IS WHEN YOU  
LOOK AT FLOOD VIEWER, IT IS THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD MOST VULNERABLE TO  
FLOODING.  
WE TALK ABOUT FLOODING.  
THE PORT.  
WE FOCUSED TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT  
IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PORT TO  
REDUCE FLOODING TO LOOK AT  
FUTURE ANTICIPATED FLOODING WITH  
CLIMATE CHANGE.  
THAT IS WHERE YOU SEE THE NEXT  
BIG PIECE OF INVESTMENT.  
WITHIN NEXT PHASE OF CSO ANOTHER  
RANGE OF PROJECTS COMING ALONG.  
THERE IS SIGNIFICANT INCREASES  
IN INFLATION.  
I WOULD SAY AS WE LOOK AT SEWER  
SEPARATION AND CSO CONTROL.  
YOU WILL START WITH EASY FIRST.



PEOPLE THROUGH WEST CAMBRIDGE  
SEWER SEPARATION FIND IT  
CHALLENGING TO SAY THAT IS EASY.  
EACH SUBSEQUENT PROJECT IS MORE  
COMPLICATED.

YOU ARE STARTING WITH EASY  
PROJECTS WITH LEAST IMPACT ON  
COMMUNITY.

IT IS TRUE AS WE GO THE NEXT  
PHASE OF SEWER SEPARATION, CSO  
CONTROL, THOSE PROJECTS ARE  
GETTING MORE COMPLICATED AND

MORE EXPENSIVE.

>> Councilor Zusy: THANK YOU SO  
MUCH.

I AM SO GRATEFUL THAT YOU ARE IN  
THE NEXT BIG PHASE AT ALE WIFE  
WORKING WITH MWRA AND  
SUMMERVILLE AND OTHER  
COMMUNITIES.

THANK YOU FOR PLANNING FOR THE  
FUTURE.

I AGREE WE MUST MAKE THE THESE  
INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS.  
THANK YOU.

>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU.  
IT IS NOTED IN THE BOOK,  
DIAMETER SEWER WAS CONSTRUCTED  
IN THE 1970s BUT 1870s AS  
WELL AS 96 DIAMETER SEWER ON  
BENNY STREET. IT NEEDS  
UPGRADED.

QUESTION ON THE CSO PROGRAM.

I UNDERSTAND WE HAVE TALKED  
ABOUT THE IDEA OF DOING  
STORMWATER MITIGATION AT SHERMAN  
STREET LOT.

IF WE DO THAT DOES THAT PREVENT  
ANY KIND OF DEVELOPMENT.  
WE TALKED ABOUT AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING THERE.

IF WE PLAN THIS AND ARE DOING  
PLANNING DESIGN FOR FLOOD  
STORAGE TANK WILL WE BE ABLE TO

HAVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING SINCE  
THAT WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY  
WE HOPED TO BUY IT.  
>> WHEN WE LOOK AT THE SHERMAN  
STREET SITE, IT IS IDEAL  
LOCATION FOR CSO CONTROL.  
IT IS AT REGULATOR.  
MOST ACTIVE IN THE ALEWIFE  
BROOK.  
IT IS PRIORITY LOCATION THAT  
MAKES A LOT OF SENSE FOR THAT.  
WHEN WE THINK ABOUT CO-LOCATING  
SOMETHING THERE.  
WE TALKED ABOUT THE IDEAL SITE  
FOR PUBLIC WORKS.  
CO-LOCATING PUBLIC FACILITY WITH  
THAT STORAGE MAKES A LOT OF  
SENSE AND EASIEST AND MOST

EFFECTIVE WAY TO UTILIZE THAT  
SITE.  
WHAT I WOULD ALSO AND WE TALKED  
ABOUT THIS.  
IT IS A LONG WEEK.  
AT COUNCIL MEETING OR EARLIER  
BUDGET HEARING.  
IF WE ARE ABLE TO UTILIZE THAT  
SITE FOR PUBLIC WORKS THEN WE  
COULD DISCONTINUE THE USE OF  
WEBSTER AVENUE WHICH HAS A LOT  
OF POTENTIAL FOR AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING AND HIGHER DENSITY AND  
MORE NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL  
UNITS.  
I THINK AS WE START TO LOOK AT  
THESE DIFFERENT SITES THAT IS  
HOW WE THINK ABOUT IT.  
>> Councilor Nolan: IT IS CLEAR  
WE NEED A MEETING TO TALK ABOUT  
VARIOUS SITES WE HAVE.  
QUESTION IS WHETHER THIS  
PREVENTS IT.  
I UNDERSTAND IT MIGHT NOT BE  
WHAT OF NOW.  
ANY REASON YOU COULDN'T BUILD

ABOVE IT?

>> IT IS MUCH MORE COMPLICATED  
TO HAVE A PUBLICLY OWNED  
FACILITY THAT HAS PRIVATE  
HOUSING OR OTHER HOUSING ON IT.  
ONE THING WE COMMITTED TO WAS  
LOOKING AT THE OPTIONS THERE AND  
HAVING COMMUNITY DISCUSSION  
ABOUT THAT LOT.

I THINK ONE OF THE OTHER THINGS  
WE TALKED ABOUT EARLIER IF WE  
CAN CONSOLIDATE TO OTHER  
LOCATIONS FREEING UP WEBSTER  
AVENUE LOT.

>> Councilor Nolan: THERE ARE  
OTHER LOTS WE NEED TO TALK  
ABOUT.

THEY ARE SCATTERED.  
WE HAVE COUPLE OTHER SITES WE  
HAVEN'T STARTED WITH FIELD  
ACROSS FROM WATER DEPARTMENT.  
I AM TELLING COUNCILORS WE NEED  
TO HAVE THAT CONVERSATION SOON.  
IF THESE PLANS ARE IN PLACE IT

IS GOING TO CUT OFF OTHER  
POSSIBLE USES.  
IT SHOULD BE COMPREHENSIVE  
APPROACH TO UNDERSTAND DOING AS  
SYSTEM INSTEAD OF ONE OFF AND  
THE POSSIBILITY OF DOING  
SOMETHING ELSE.

MIGHT BE RIGHT ANSWER NOT BY  
DEFAULT BUT BY PROACTIVE  
DISCUSSION WHERE WE ARE MOVING.  
THIS PROJECT IS HERE.  
OTHER QUESTIONS ON THE COMPLETE  
STREETS?

WE TALKED ABOUT WATERLINES.  
COUNCILOR WILSON.

>> Councilor Wilson: WHAT IS THE  
UPKEEP OF SEWER LINES?  
RECOGNIZING IT HAS BEEN  
NEGLECTED, NOT TOUCHED OR  
UPDATED IN SOME SIGNIFICANT

YEARS?

>> HE CAME HERE 28 YEARS AND  
STARTED, I WOULD SAY.

IT IS TRUE.

GO BACK, MAYBE OWEN CAN SPEAK  
WHERE THE SEWER SYSTEM WAS WHEN  
HE GOT HERE VERSUS PROGRESS.

>> WE SHOULD GET STORIES FROM  
EARLY DAYS.

I SEE THE THREE PEOPLE BESIDE ME  
AT THE TABLE KNOW A LOT ABOUT  
WHERE WE WERE 28 YEARS AGO.  
WE HAD AN AWFUL SITUATION?  
TERMS OF SEWER AND DRAINAGE  
SYSTEMS.

BECAUSE OF WORK THESE AND OTHERS  
HAVE DONE IT HAS BEEN  
TRANSFORMED OVER LAST 28 YEARS.  
IT IS A WELL MAINTAINED AND  
OPERATING SYSTEM THAT CONTINUES  
TO NEED MORE WORK BECAUSE AS A  
RESULT OF OUR HISTORY WE ARE  
STILL BY AND LARGE COMBINED  
SEWER COMMUNITY.

SANITARY FLOW AND STORMWATER IN  
THE SYSTEMS THAT NEED SEPARATED.  
THAT WILL TAKE GENERATIONS TO  
DO.

GIVEN WHERE WE ARE AT NOW IN  
TERMS OF PROGRAMMATICALLY.

WHAT JAMES, JOHN, CATHY AND  
OTHER PEOPLE AT PUBLIC WORKS  
HAVE DONE IS TRANSFORMED TO ONE  
THAT OPERATES WELL WITH  
REASONABLE LEVELS OF SERVICE IN  
COMMUNITY.

IT IS CHALLENGED.

THE NATURE OF THE CITY TWO  
DAMMED RIVERS THAT CAUSE TROUBLE  
AND WITH CLIMATE CHANGE.

IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE INVESTED  
IN.

TRANSFORMED IN TERMS OF WHERE WE  
WERE.

>> ANYTHING TO ADD?  
>> WHEN YOU LOOK AT DIFFERENT  
AREAS OF THE BUDGET IN TERMS OF  
OPERATING BUDGET AND REPAIR AND  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, THERE ARE  
COUPLE AREAS TO FOCUS ON CORE  
MAINTENANCE.  
INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEANING  
INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEANING CATCH  
BASINS.  
SOME OF THOSE NOT VERY SEXY OR  
EXCITING.  
DAY-TO-DAY WORK THAT MAKES THAT  
CONTINUE TO WORK.  
UNDERSELLS THEMSELVES A LITTLE  
BIT.  
LOOK AT THE GIS SYSTEM TO SEE  
THAT WE HAVE A NUMBER OF LARGE  
STORMWATER HOLDING TANKS.  
28 YEARS AGO THERE WAS  
SIGNIFICANT FLOODING IN BALDWIN  
NEIGHBORHOOD.  
WE DON'T HEAR ABOUT FLOODING  
TODAY.  
THERE IS UNDERGROUND  
INFRASTRUCTURE THAT IS THERE AND  
FUNCTIONS NO ONE UNDERSTANDS OR  
SEES.  
IT REQUIRES CONTINUOUS  
MAINTENANCE THROUGH OPERATING  
BUDGET WE HAVE ONGOING CONTRACTS  
FOR MAINTENANCE OF PUMPING  
SYSTEMS TO MAKE SURE THOSE  
SYSTEMS ARE CLEANED.  
A LOT OF WORK INVOLVED IN  
MAINTENANCE DAY-TO-DAY WORK THAT

IS CRITICAL.  
>> Councilor Wilson: IN THIS  
BOOK WE ARE SEEING A LOT OF THE  
DOLLARS SPENT OVER THE NEXT FIVE  
YEARS.  
IT IS GOING TO BE IN THE  
HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS.  
WHAT WILL THAT LOOK LIKE 10, 15

YEARS FROM YOU NO?  
DO WE SEE OURSELVES SPENDING THE  
SIGNIFICANT DOLLAR AMOUNT AGAIN?  
>> THIS IS WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT  
COUNCILOR ZUSY.  
THERE IS CONTINUOUS INVESTMENT  
IN INFRASTRUCTURE.  
I DON'T SEE US NOT PAYING FOR  
STREETS OR SIDEWALKS ANY MORE  
AND WE NEED LONGER TERM PLAN.  
THE CITY MANAGER IS SETTING  
GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR TO LOOK AT  
DEVELOPING 10 YEAR CAPITAL PLAN.  
OVER LAST NUMBER OF YEARS WE ARE  
BUILDING OUT TO MAKE SURE THIS  
BUDGET BOOK INCONCLUDES FULL  
FIVE YEARS.  
WE ARE NOT FOCUSING ON FIRST  
YEAR BUT FILLING OUT FIVE YEAR  
PICTURE.  
THAT IS CLEAR.  
DIFFERENT FINANCIAL  
CONSIDERATIONS AND UNDERSTANDING  
THE SCALE OF THE NEED FOR  
BUILDINGS.  
LOOK AT BUILDING OUT 10 YEAR  
CAPITAL PLAN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT  
IS RIGHT INVESTMENT IN TERMS OF  
STREETS, PARKS, SIDEWALKS,  
BUILDINGS.  
WHERE DO WE UNDER INVEST BECAUSE  
WE NEED TO ADDRESS OTHER ISSUES?  
THAT IS WORK WE WILL BE DOING IN  
THE COMING YEAR TO LOOK AT THE  
LONGER TERM VISION.  
>> Councilor Wilson: QUESTION  
WITH REGARDS TO SNOW.  
>> TO CLARIFY.  
I KNOW THERE IS A LOT OF  
CONVERSATIONS OF COUNCIL LEVEL  
THINKING THROUGH HOW THE CAPITAL  
PLAN AFFECTS OPERATING BUDGET.

A LOT OF THE CONVERSATION HAVING  
AS IT RELATES TO SEWER AND WATER

IN FROM STRUCTURE IS SUPPORTED  
BY SEWER, WATER BONDS AND  
SERVICE CHARGES.  
YOU CAN THINK ABOUT SEWER AND  
WATER IN FROM STRUCTURE  
SELF-CONTAINED.  
IF YOU LOOK AT PAGE V I3.  
THEY ARE TIED TO INFRASTRUCTURE  
INVESTMENTS.  
THOSE ARE NOT HITTING OPERATING  
BUDGET IN SAME WAY.  
SOME COMMUNITIES HAVE STRUGGLED.  
IF YOU ARE NOT DOING ALL OF THIS  
ADVANCED PLANNING WORK,  
MAINTENANCE WORK.  
YOUR SEWER AND WATER RATE END UP  
VERY, VERY LOW.  
PEOPLE DON'T NOTICE THEM.  
THEY ARE HAPPY TO PAY LESS.  
YOU WAKE UP 20 OR 30 YEARS  
LATER.  
SUDDENLY ALL OF THE  
INFRASTRUCTURE IS FALLING APART.  
PROBLEM IS NOT JUST MONEY.  
IT IS TIME, ENGINEERING,  
CONSTRUCTION.  
WHAT IS INCREDIBLE IS ABILITY TO  
RAISE MONEY ON REGULAR BASIS SO  
WE CAN OVER TIME MAKE THESE  
INVESTMENTS.  
THAT IS WHAT HAS ALLOWED US TO  
STRENGTHEN SYSTEMS AND NOT  
BURDEN COMMUNITY WITH THESE  
SPIKES IN SEWER AND WATER RATES.  
I THINK IT IS HELPFUL BECAUSE IT  
DOES LOOK AS WE REVIEW BUDGET WE  
ARE PUTTING ENORMOUS AMOUNT,  
HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS  
INTO THE SEWER SYSTEM, WATER  
SYSTEM.  
THOSE ARE ACTUALLY FUNDED  
THROUGH THE SYSTEM ITSELF RATHER  
THAN PROFIT TAXES.  
>> Councilor Wilson: BEFORE I GO  
TO SNOW CLEARING EQUIPMENT.  
IS THE WATER SAFE TO DRINK IN  
THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE FOR THE

RECORD?

>> HIGH-QUALITY GOOD WATER, YES.  
>> Councilor Nolan: THAT IS WHY  
EVERY YEAR WE SEE 6 TO 9%  
INCREASE IN SEWER RATES.  
IT DOESN'T HIT OPERATING BUDGET.  
IT IS A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER  
PERCENTAGE INCREASE FOR SEWER  
RATE OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS OR  
SO.

BLENDED RATE MAY BE 4 OR 5%.  
SEWER RATE HAS GONE UP  
SIGNIFICANTLY.

AS COUNCILOR WILSON NOTED, WE  
PAY IN THE SAME WAY.

>> Councilor Wilson: 6 \$20,000  
FROM FREE CASH FOR THE USE OF  
EQUIPMENT.

COULD YOU CASH WHAT THESE  
EQUIPMENTS HOW MANY TO BE  
PURCHASED.

THERE ARE FIVE.

CAN YOU TALK ABOUT THIS KIND OF  
EQUIPMENT AND WHY DOES IT NEED  
TO COME OUT OF FREE CASH NOT  
THROUGH OPERATING BUDGET SINCE  
WE ARE ANTICIPATING THIS EVERY  
YEAR FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

>> I CAN ANSWER ONE PIECE AND  
THEN I WILL TURN IT OVER TO THE  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER TO TALK  
ABOUT THE EQUIPMENT.

IN APRIL EVERY YEAR WE DO SNOW  
APPROPRIATION TO SAY HOW MUCH  
ACTUAL SNOW TO CATCH UP ON THE  
SNOW OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR.  
TRADITIONALLY WE HAVE HAD THIS  
EQUIPMENT AS PART OF THAT.  
THIS YEAR WE WANTED TO MOVE TO  
THE BUDGET BOOK TO BE CLEAR  
ABOUT WE KNOW THIS IS AN ONGOING  
EXPENSE.

TO BE TRANSPARENT IF IT IS  
ANNUAL WE DON'T WANT IT AS STAND



ALONE CASH.  
THIS IS FIRST TIME IN BUDGET  
BOOK FOCUSING ON SMALLER  
SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT LOOKING AT  
PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE  
OPERATIONS.  
JOHN WILL TALK ABOUT THE

EQUIPMENT.  
>> IT DOES SAY FREE CASH.  
CAN YOU SPEAK TO WHY FREE CASH,  
NOT OPERATING.  
>> COUNCILOR, WHEN WE DO  
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION EVERY  
YEAR IT IS FROM FREE CASH.  
IT IS TO BE MORE UP FRONT ABOUT  
THAT AND PUT IT IN THE BUDGET AS  
FREE CASH APPROPRIATION AT  
OUTSET.  
THE OTHER THING TO FOREWARN YOU  
IF WE GET SIGNIFICANT BE SNOW  
SEASON, AMOUNT OF MONEY  
APPROPRIATED HERE MAY BE  
INSUFFICIENT.  
THIS IS PUTTING MORE MONEY IN  
WHERE WE GET IT EVERY YEAR.  
IF WE GET 100 INCHES OF SNOW  
NEXT YEAR WE WILL LOOK FOR MORE  
MONEY.  
>> TO YOU IF I COULD ADD ANOTHER  
PIECE OF CONTEXT.  
WE ARE BUDGETING SOMETHING OVER  
\$8 MILLION IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET  
AS FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE  
OVERALL CAPITAL BUDGET.  
THIS IS ONE OF THE ITEMS.  
YOU WOULD NOTICE THAT WE ARE  
USING FREE CASH AS CAPITAL  
BUDGET FUNDING SOURCE.  
>> Councilor Nolan: NOW  
EQUIPMENT.  
>> COUNCILOR WILSON.  
IN WINTERTIME 30 MILES AROUND  
SCHOOLS AND PARK ALSO.  
WE FOUND THAT THESE SMALL PIECES

OF EQUIPMENT ARE FANTASTIC AND  
OUR WORK FORCE CHANGED.  
IT IS GOOD TO HAVE A PIECE OF  
EQUIPMENT SOMEBODY CAN RIDE IN  
WITH A LOT OF MILES.  
IT BECOMES EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE.  
THEY ARE FINICKY.  
IF YOU OWN A LAWNMOWER, THEY  
BREAK DOWN AT WORST TIME.  
WE HAVE GREAT MAINTENANCE CREW  
THAT MAINTAINS EQUIPMENT.  
IT DOES BREAKDOWN OVER TIME.  
AS WE EXPAND THROUGH THE BIKE

LANES OR MORE PEDESTRIAN AREAS  
WE NEED EQUIPMENT TO KEEP UP.  
OFTEN TIMES DEPENDING ON STORMS  
FOLK COULD BE IN THE EQUIPMENT  
16, 18, 20 HOURS AT A TIME.  
WE NEED ROBUST PIECES OF  
EQUIPMENT TO ALLOW US TO DO  
THIS.  
I WOULD SAY GOING OUT FURTHER OR  
IN THE PAST WE HAVE ASKED FOR  
EQUIPMENT THAT WASN'T JUST ABOUT  
PEDESTRIAN.  
WE MAY HAVE A SMALL SALTER THAT  
BREAKS DOWN AND IT IS PAST  
USEFUL LIFE.  
THAT IS WHY WE ASK FOR  
REPLACEMENT MONEY.  
>> WHAT IS THE LIFE OF THESE  
FINICKY?  
>> IN GENERAL WE HAVE  
REPLACEMENT PLAN FOR ALL  
EQUIPMENT ANYWHERE FROM 10 YEARS  
TO 15 YEARS.  
WITH THIS EQUIPMENT THE WAY IT  
IS USED SOMETIMES THAT CAN BE  
LESS.  
WE DEFINITELY HAVE PIECES OF  
EQUIPMENT THAT IS OLDER THAN 10  
OR 15 YEARS.  
>> Councilor Wilson: THANK YOU.  
I AM GOOD.

I YIELD.

>> Councilor Nolan: THANK YOU.  
OTHER QUESTIONS ON PUBLIC WORKS,  
SNOWS, STREETS, MASTER PLAN THAT  
SERVICES \$122 MILLION.

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS.

COUNCILOR ZUSY.

>> Councilor Zusy: MY OVERALL  
QUESTION IS IT IS GREAT TO HAVE  
IMPROVED STREETS.

CAN SOME OF THIS WORK WHICH IS  
REQUIRING CONSIDERABLE  
INVESTMENT, CAN IT BE DELAYED  
UNTIL THE ECONOMY REBOUNDS.

AT CENTRAL SQUARE I AM HOPING,  
AND I THINK THERE WILL BE BIG  
DEVELOPMENT OVER THE NEXT FIVE  
TO 10 YEARS.

I WONDER IF DOING THE SIDEWALK

RECONSTRUCTION MAKES SENSE TO DO  
BEFORE BIG BUILDING HAPPENS  
THERE AT CENTRAL SQUARE.

THEN MY SMALLER QUESTION WAS  
WHAT WAS THE COMMUNITY PROCESS  
FOR REDOING CENTRAL SQUARE  
STREETS?

WERE THE POLICE INVOLVED IN THAT  
PLANNING?

>> THE COMPLETE STREETS BUDGET.  
V I-64-65.

WE HAVE DEFINITELY BEEN LOOKING  
AT OVER THE LAST YEAR, YEAR AND  
A HALF ABOUT SLOWING DOWN SOME  
OF THESE PROJECTS WHILE  
CONTINUING TO INVEST BOTH IN  
STREETS AND SIDEWALKS.

WHAT YOU SEE HERE FROM FY26-29  
IS ABOUT \$10 MILLION LESS THAN  
WHAT WE PROJECTED IN THOSE SAME  
FOUR YEARS LAST YEAR.

AS WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT  
PROJECTS WE HAVE BEEN PUSHING  
THEM OUT AND SLOWING DOWN THAT  
SPENDING ON THE STREET SIDE.

THAT IS SOMETHING WE ARE  
ACTIVELY LOOKING AT.  
WE ALSO KNOW THAT WHEN WE LOOK  
AT PAVING CONDITION AND SIDEWALK  
CONDITION WE CAN'T NOT INVEST IN  
THOSE STREETS.  
IF YOU THINK ABOUT PAVING  
CONDITION, SOONER YOU CATCH IT  
AS DETERIORATING YOU CAN DO  
GRIND AND OVERLAY.  
YOU SEE THAT QUICK WORK THAT  
HAPPENS.  
ONCE STREETS DETERIORATE YOU ARE  
INTO FULL DEPTH RECONSTRUCTION  
MUCH MORE COSTLY OPERATION.  
YOU ARE TAKING OUT FULL ROAD BOX  
OF 18-24 INCHES TO REPLACE IF  
YOU DON'T CATCH WHEN YOU CAN DO  
IT MORE MAINTENANCE PIECE.  
SIMILAR TO COUNCIL WILSON'S  
COMMENTS ABOUT PARK SIDE.  
IF WE ARE NOT KEEPING UP WITH  
THE STREETS YOU END UP WITH  
SIGNIFICANT DEFICIT AND NEED  
MORE MONEY.

WE BALANCE NOT OVER SPENDING AND  
PARTICULARLY IN THIS MOMENT  
TRYING TO SLOWDOWN SPENDING  
WHILE NOT LOSING STRUCTURAL  
CONDITION OF THE STREETS.  
THAT IS SOMETHING WE CONTINUE TO  
THINK ABOUT AND PUSH PROJECTS  
OUT.  
EVEN IN THE FIRST FOUR YEARS WE  
REDUCED FUNDING ABOUT  
\$10 MILLION.  
ON THE STREETS WITH CENTRAL  
SQUARE.  
A COUPLE THINGS THERE.  
CENTRAL SQUARE WAS IDENTIFIED IN  
THE CYCLING SAFETY ORDINANCE FOR  
FULL RECONSTRUCTION.  
WHEN THE SAFETY CYCLING CSO  
ORDINANCE WAS PASSED RECOGNITION

WAS THAT YOU COULD NOT DO QUICK  
BUILD SAFELY QUICK BUILD  
SEPARATE BIKE LANES IN CENTRAL  
SQUARE.

IT WAS IDENTIFIED FOR  
CONSTRUCTION.

WE KNEW THAT WE HAD YOU THE  
UTILITY NEEDS IN THERE AND IT  
OVERLAPPED WITH THE  
INFRASTRUCTURE.

IT WAS IN THE CYCLING SAFETY  
ORDINANCE AND ALSO  
INFRASTRUCTURE THAT NEEDS TO BE  
ADDRESSED.

COULD IT BE DELAYED A YEAR IS A  
CONVERSATION WE CAN HAVE.

SCHEDULE IS IN THE CYCLING  
SAFETY ORDINANCE.

APPROPRIATION FOR THE DESIGN WAS  
COUPLE YEARS AGO.

GIVEN THE FOCUS ON OTHER  
PROJECTS THAT WORK HAS NOT BE  
GUN.

LATER THIS YEAR WE WILL WORK  
WITH ADVISORY WORK AND WITH THE  
PLAZA WE WILL BRING IN POLICE.  
DESIGN THERE WAS MONEY  
PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED THAT HAS  
NOT YET BEGUN.

[CAPTIONER SWITCH]

>> Councillor Zusy: I'M SO HAPPY  
TO HEAR THAT.

I WONDER IF I MISSED IT.

I LIVE VERY CLOSE TO CENTRAL  
SQUARE AND I WASN'T AWARE OF THE  
PROCESS.

I THINK YOU UNDERSTAND.

MY WORRY IS, I UNDERSTAND ALL  
THIS WORK NEEDS TO HAPPEN.

AGAIN, I WISH WE COULD ALSO  
TRAIN OUR KIDS TO WORK ON THE  
STREETS, WORK ON THE SEWER, ALL  
THESE THINGS THAT NEED TO HAPPEN  
HERE SO WE'RE NOT PAYING THE  
CAMBRIDGE BONUS FOR ALL OF THIS  
CONTRACTED WORK.

I WORRY ABOUT OUR CONTINUING --

I THINK WE'VE BORROWED  
\$1.1 BILLION AT THIS POINT.  
I WORRY ABOUT OUR BORROWING MORE  
MONEY FOR WORK THAT NEEDS TO  
HAPPEN.

I KNOW WE'RE VERY WELL MANAGED  
AS A CITY.

IF FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES  
AFFECT OUR BOND RATING WE COULD  
END UP PAYING A LOT OF MONEY FOR  
THIS WORK.

I UNDERSTAND IN THE BEST OF ALL  
POSSIBLE WORLDS WE WOULD DO ALL  
OF THIS WORK AND IT WOULD BE  
GREAT TO PROCEED WITH IT.

I AM REALLY NERVOUS ABOUT GOING  
DEEPER AND DEEPER IN DEBT WHEN  
WE ARE -- IT LOOKS LIKE WE COULD  
HAVE 3, 4, 5 YEARS OF HAVING  
LESS MONEY IN OUR COFFERS AND  
HAVING TO PAY MORE INTEREST ON  
OUR BORROWED MONEY.

AGAIN, I UNDERSTAND YOUR CASE  
FOR INVESTING IN ALL OF THESE  
PROJECTS AND TODAY I WILL  
SUPPORT THAT INVESTMENT WITH THE  
UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU'RE REALLY  
GOING TO REVIEW THE WHOLE BUDGET  
VERY CAREFULLY AND MAKE THE CUTS  
THAT NEED TO HAPPEN SO WE CAN  
PRESERVE OUR GREAT BOND RATING  
AND SO WE CAN REMAIN FISCALLY  
HEALTHY AND SOLVENT CITY.

THAT'S MY WORRY.

THAT'S MY REASSURANCE I WANT  
FROM ALL OF YOU.

I APPLAUD THE STAFF.

EVERYONE DOES EXTRAORDINARY  
WORK.

I HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THEIR  
WORK AND THE HIGH CALIBER OF  
THEIR WORK.

WE ALWAYS DO THINGS AT THE  
HIGHEST LEVEL BUT I WORRY ABOUT  
OUR NOT HAVING THE MONEY TO PAY  
BACK OUR DEBT AT THE END OF THE  
DAY.

I WOULD LIKE A LITTLE  
REASSURANCE HERE, PLEASE.  
THANK YOU.

>> Chair: THANKS.

I THINK THE REASSURANCE IS WE  
HAVE A BALANCE BUDGET BEFORE US  
AND WE DON'T KNOW FUTURE BONDING  
WHETHER THEY WILL HAPPEN.  
WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW IS  
\$122 MILLION EXPECTED FOR THESE  
PROJECTS.

THERE'S A SLEW OF PROJECTS THAT  
WERE ALREADY APPROVED.

IN THE BOOK THERE'S \$50 MILLION  
FOR MASS AVE TWO YEARS AGO  
THAT'S BEING ARE BEING RELIED  
ON.

THERE'S EXPECTATIONS IN THE  
FUTURE FOR MANY MORE MILLION  
BONDS.

THOSE WE DON'T KNOW YET AND MAY  
HAVE TO CHANGE BASED ON THE  
OPERATING BUDGET.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT OTHER  
ASSURANCES OTHER THAN WE'RE  
AWARE OF IT AND WORKING ON IT.  
THE COUNCIL IS ON RECORD AND  
TALKED ABOUT THAT AND  
UNDERSTAND, WHICH IS WHY WE ASK  
QUESTIONS OF CAN WE SAVE MONEY.  
AGAIN, WE NEED TO.

WE HAVE SO MANY OTHER NEEDS THAT  
ARE -- WE HEARD EARLIER TODAY  
WHETHER IT'S IMMIGRANTS OUR  
UNHOUSED.

THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER NEEDS IN  
OUR OPERATING BUDGET WE NEED TO  
BE AS RESPONSIBLE AS POSSIBLE.  
WE APPRECIATE THE WORK OF THE  
STAFF AND HOPEFULLY YOU'VE  
GOTTEN THE MESSAGE PRETTY LOUD  
THAT IT'S HARD TO SAY THAT  
YOU'RE NOT DOING YOUR BEST JOB  
TO GET THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE.  
YET WE'RE SAYING LET'S DIG A  
LITTLE DEEPER.

LET'S GET THAT CAMBRIDGE PREMIUM

DOWN.

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

>> Councillor Wilson: THANK  
YOU.

THROUGH YOU, MADAM CHAIR.  
ARE WE GOING TO MOVE FORWARD  
PRETTY SOON?

>> Chair: YES.

I THINK WE'VE CLOSED OUT THIS  
UNLESS THERE'S OTHER QUESTIONS  
ON THE \$122 MILLION.

THE NEXT SECTION IS HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEPARTMENT, A ALTHOUGH  
TOTAL IS ONLY \$258,000 AND WE  
TALKED ABOUT DANEHY PARK  
IMPROVEMENTS.

THE REST IS VERY LITTLE.  
UNLESS THERE'S QUESTIONS ABOUT  
THAT I THINK WE SHOULD SKIP TO  
SCHOOL BUILDING REPAIRS.

>> Councillor Wilson: IF I CAN  
MAKE A QUICK STATEMENT ON THIS.  
I AGREE WE ARE A CITY THAT HAS  
THE WEALTHINESS IN WHICH WE HAVE  
AND THAT IS WHAT REALLY MAKES  
CAMBRIDGE A BEAUTIFUL AND  
ATTRACTIVE CITY.

NOT ONLY TO WORK TO LIVE TO DO  
BUSINESS AND SO MUCH MORE.  
FOR VISITORS TO COME TO OUR  
CITY.

THERE'S A LOT THAT WE INVEST IN  
ORDER TO MAKE THIS CITY VIBRANT  
AS IT IS AND I BELIEVE THAT  
THROUGH SOME OF THE DECISIONS  
THAT GET MADE THROUGH THIS BODY  
WE FIND OURSELVES INVESTING  
MORE.

PROBABLY WITH THAT LACK OF  
TRANSPARENCY OR JUST NOT KNOWING  
WHAT WE DON'T KNOW THE DOLLARS,  
I THINK ABOUT THE C.S.O.  
I DON'T KNOW IF FOLKS ON THE  
COUNCIL WHEN THIS WAS PASSED  
WOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT WE'RE  
INVESTING MULTIPLE MILLIONS OF  
DOLLARS INTO THAT.



MAYBE THEY WOULD HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY IN TERMS OF PRIORITIZING AND/OR BEING MINDFUL OF HOW WE DIVE INTO THE CONVERSATION.

I JUST WANT TO BE CLEAR THAT BECAUSE -- WHETHER IT'S FOR EQUIPMENT WE NEED TO CLEAR UP THE STREETS AND BIKE LANES AND PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS AND SO ON, OR IF IT'S THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PAVING THE ROADS AND SO MUCH MORE.

WE ARE A CITY THAT'S INVESTING SIGNIFICANT DOLLARS INTO THINGS AND IT'S NOT NECESSARILY TRANSPARENT AS TO WHAT THAT DOLLAR AMOUNT IS.

I KNOW THAT SOME MONTHS AGO WE TRIED TO -- THERE WAS A STATEMENT OR A MEMO, MAYBE IT WAS DEPUTY CITY MANAGER THROUGH YOU SAID THERE'S A CERTAIN MILLION DOLLAR AMOUNT.

I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT THAT WAS. MAYBE YOU CAN SAY IT FOR THE RECORD.

I DON'T KNOW IF THAT WAS DISCUSSED DURING THAT TIME. I DON'T THINK IT WAS TO THAT MAGNITUDE.

I JUST THINK THAT AS A CITY WE NEED TO BE MINDFUL OF HOW WE ARE INVESTING OUR DOLLARS AND IN A VERY TRANSPARENT WAY ON PROJECTS.

NOW WE ARE REALLY SCRAPPING FOR DOLLARS WHEN IT COMES TO SUPPORTING THE MOST VULNERABLE FAMILIES, MOST VULNERABLE NEIGHBORS.

I THINK THIS IS WHERE WE NEED TO REALLY THINK ABOUT WHAT IS THE SCALE AND THE SCOPE OF WORK AS WE CONTINUE TO MOVE FORWARD. YES, THERE ARE AREAS WE WANT TO PRIORITIZE, OPEN SPACE, BIKE

LANES, BUT WE ALSO WANT TO MAKE SURE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY CAN ACTUALLY THRIVE AND PUT FOOD ON THEIR TABLE AND HAVE A ROOF OVER THEIR HEAD.

THOSE ARE THE THINGS THAT I THINK WE NEED TO BE MORE MINDFUL AND DILIGENT AROUND AS WE MAKE THESE VARIOUS INVESTMENTS.

I JUST WANTED TO NAME THAT ESPECIALLY AS WE TALK ABOUT CAPITAL COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMMUNITY IS WHAT TRULY MATTERS IN THIS WHOLE PROJECT, THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THIS WORK. AS WE DO SOME OF THIS, SOMETIMES I FEEL THERE ARE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO ARE OFTEN LEFT OUT OF THE CONVERSATION AND NOT INCLUDED.

I JUST WANTED TO NAME THAT AS WE CONTINUE TO APPROPRIATE THESE DOLLARS.

PLEASE, JUST BE MINDFUL WE NEED TO MAKE SURE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO ARE NOT OFTEN CENTERED ARE THE ONES WHO NEED TO BE CENTERED WHEN WE ARE INVESTING MULTIPLE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

YET WHEN WE SAY LET'S GIVE FAMILIES \$500 FREE CASH OR WHATEVER WE THEN SAY, NOPE, WE CAN'T DO THAT YET WE CAN INVEST IN ANOTHER THING THAT MAYBE DOESN'T ADD THAT SAME KIND OF VALUE.

I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT. I NEED IT TO BE ON RECORD SAYING THAT.

I APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU ALL FOR YOUR WORK AND TIME.

I'LL YIELD.

THANK YOU.

>> Chair: I WANT TO THANK YOU, COUNCILLOR WILSON.

I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.  
AS SOMEONE WHO VOTED FOR THIS IF  
IT COME WITH \$100 MILLION PRICE  
TAG WE WOULD HAVE CONVERSATIONS  
ABOUT IT.  
THERE'S A RANGE OF OTHER THINGS  
INCLUDED IN IT BUT THE WAY IT  
WAS DONE LED TO THAT.  
WE APPRECIATE THAT.  
THERE WERE LO THES OF THINGS,  
BIKE LANES, UTILITIES.  
WE MIGHT HAVE A DIFFERENT  
CONVERSATION IF THE FINANCIAL  
SITUATION TODAY WAS DIFFERENT.  
THEY HEARD THE MESSAGE WE WANT  
FULL DISCLOSURE.  
WE'RE CHANGING CULTURE SUCH A  
THAT IF WE DO SOMETHING WHAT IS  
IMPLICATION FOR FUTURE AND  
FINANCING.  
WHICH IS IMPORTANT AND YOU  
RAISED AS AN ISSUE, COUNCILLOR  
WILSON, I THINK.  
THAT BEING SAID ANYONE ELSE ON  
THIS PART OF IT BEFORE WE MOVE  
TO -- AGAIN, IF THERE ARE  
QUESTIONS I KNOW WE HAVE SOME  
PEOPLE HERE WHO MIGHT BE HERE  
FOR THE HUMAN RESOURCE  
DEVELOPMENT BUT WE'VE TALKED  
ABOUT A COUPLE OF ITEMS AND IT'S  
\$258,000.  
IF I DON'T SEE ANY HANDS UP I  
THINK WE SHOULD MOVE TO SCHOOL  
BUILDING REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT  
WHICH IS \$20 MILLION.  
TECHNICALLY \$19.99 MILLION.  
THAT IS A RANGE OF PROJECTS NOT  
SPECIFIED BUT IT CAME OUT OF A  
COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE  
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT -- REVIEW OF  
THE FACILITIES.  
FOLLOWING UP ON WHAT COUNCILLOR  
WILSON SAID, I THINK THERE'S  
BEEN DISCUSSION IN THIS CHAMBER  
AND IN THE CITY OF THE COST  
ASSOCIATED WITH MUCH OF OUR

SCHOOL BUILDINGS, AS WELL.  
IT THEN LED TO -- BYE EVERYBODY.  
THANK YOU.  
HAPPY THURSDAY.  
CERTAINLY THIS SCHOOL  
DEVELOPMENT OVERALL, WE'VE  
INVESTED \$700 MILLION OVER THE  
LAST BIT.  
WE HAVE WONDERFUL SCHOOLS AND  
YET IT'S CREATED A STRAIN ON US  
FINANCIALLY AS A CITY AS WE MOVE  
FORWARD IN SOME OF THAT BUILDING  
PROJECT IS, AGAIN, IS THE  
CAMBRIDGE PREMIUM.  
YES, IT'S DIFFICULT  
CIRCUMSTANCES BUT WE HAVE  
CERTAINLY, BY COMPARISON, I WILL  
STILL ATTEST TO THE FACT WE  
SPENT FAR MORE THAN SIMILAR  
BUILDINGS BUILT BY SIMILAR  
CONTRACTORS BY SIMILAR DESIGN.  
RIGHT NOW WHAT'S BEFORE US IS  
ABOUT \$20 MILLION SCHOOL  
BUILDING REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT.  
I SEE C.O.O. SMITH WHO LIVES  
THROUGH THAT INFAMOUS WEST  
CAMBRIDGE SEWER SEPARATION.  
I KNOW BECAUSE WE WERE KIND OF  
NEIGHBORS.  
WE LIVED THROUGH THAT FIVE  
YEARS.  
WE'RE PRETTY FAMILIAR WITH IT.  
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU HAVE  
ANYTHING YOU WANT TO START OFF  
WITH.  
IF YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE YOUR  
TEAM C.O.O. SMITH.  
>> THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR  
THROUGH YOU.  
TO MY LEFT IS FACILITIES MANAGER  
AND DIRECTOR VIDAD.  
>> BRENDA ROY, DIRECTOR OF  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.  
CAPITAL BUILDING PROJECTS.  
WE WORK VERY CLOSELY ON THE NEW  
BUILDINGS BUT ALSO ON SOME LARGE  
CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT WILL BE

COMING UP, HOPEFULLY.

THANK YOU.

>> Chair: THANK YOU.

ON THE BUDGET BOOK, THERE'S NOT MUCH DETAIL BUT IT'S ON PAGE ROMAN NUMBER 681.

I THINK FOR THE LACK OF DETAILS A REPORT FROM THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, FORWARDED, I BELIEVE THE COUNCIL RECEIVED.

A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF BUILDINGS.

THIS IS OPEN TO QUESTIONS.

THIS WILL BE FROM FULLY SUPPORTED BY BONDS AND OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS IT WILL BE \$30 MILLION.

I BELIEVE IN PRIOR YEARS THERE HAD BEEN SOME ALLOCATIONS WHICH IS NOT LISTED BUT THERE HAD BEEN WORK FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR. ARE THERE QUESTIONS?

>> TO YOU CHAIR, IF I CAN PERHAPS PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CONTEXT.

WHEN WE CAME BEFORE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN DECEMBER, WE HAD INDICATED THAT WE'RE NOT GOING TO BUILD NEW SCHOOLS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

WE RECOGNIZE THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT DEFERRED NEEDS IN TERMS OF EXISTING SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

WE COMMITTED THAT TIME WE WOULDN'T SPEND MORE THAN \$50 MILLION ON SCHOOLS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

THIS BUDGET REFLECTS THAT.

I WILL TELL YOU THAT THE FACT THERE'S \$20 MILLION IN THE FIRST YEAR ALSO REFLECTS THE FACT THAT WE'RE PRIORITIZING THE LONGFELLED BUILDING OVER THE NEXT YEAR.

ALSO RECOGNIZING THE OTHER SCHOOL BUILDINGS ADDRESSED HAVE

TO BE ADDRESSED DURING THE  
SUMMER MONTHS.

WE NEED DESIGN FUNDS TO BE  
RAISED TO GO FOR SUBSEQUENT  
YEARS IN ADVANCE OF SUMMERTIME  
COMING AROUND.

THERE'S ADDITIONAL MONEY IN THE  
FIRST YEAR TO PROVIDE FOR THAT  
FUNDING.

I WANTED TO PROVIDE THAT IN  
TERMS OF CONTEXT AND WE'RE HAPPY  
TO PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED LIST  
IF YOU WISH TO SEE THAT.

>> Chair: YOU MENTIONED ORDERING  
NEW EQUIPMENT MIGHT BE THE  
TIMING FACTOR.

IS THERE DISCUSSION OF HAVING  
THAT BUILDING BE ELECTRIFIED  
NOW?

>> THROUGH YOU TO YOU CHAIR.  
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THAT AT  
THIS POINT IN TIME.  
ONE ISSUE FOR US IS COST  
EFFECTIVENESS OF THAT AND GET IT  
DONE IN A TIMELY FASHION.  
THAT'S SOMETHING WE WANT TO LOOK  
AT THREW A FEASIBILITY STUDY  
ONGOING FOR THE NEXT NUMBER OF  
MONTHS.

>> Chair: MIGHT BE A GOOD TIME  
FOR M.I.T. TO PARTNER WITH US ON  
HEAT EXCHANGE GEOTHERMAL IN THAT  
AREA OF CAMBRIDGE.

THERE'S RETAIL, PUBLIC BUILDS,  
INSTITUTIONS, LOW-INCOME  
HOUSING, AND MARKET RATE  
HOUSING.

JUST SAYING.

DO WE HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?  
WE DON'T HAVE TO BUT THIS IS THE  
LAST THING ON OUR AGENDA.  
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS NOW IS  
THE TIME.

ANYONE ONLINE?

>> NO.

>> Chair: OKAY.  
COUNCILLOR WILSON.

>> Councillor Wilson: THANK  
YOU, CHAIR.

>> Chair: HAVING SAT THROUGH  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND  
THE MOST RECENT MEMBER I'M SURE  
YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH THIS.

>> Councillor Wilson: YES.  
THIS IS LIKE SCHOOL BUT I'M  
CURIOUS ABOUT THE WAR MEMORIAL  
BECAUSE IT'S IN OUR SCHOOL  
BUILDING, ALTHOUGH IT IS  
MAINTAINED OR MANAGED MORE BY  
HUMAN SERVICES.

WHILE WE'RE DOING BUILDING  
REPAIRS OF THE SCHOOLS AND NOT  
DOING FULL GUT JOBS, I GUESS,  
GIVEN THAT THE FLETCHER MAYNARD  
IS A SCHOOL I SPENT MANY OF MY  
YEARS.

I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THE WORK WE'RE  
DOING AS A BAND AID JOB.

IS THIS SOMETHING WE KNOW WILL  
LAST FOR A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF  
YEARS?

WHAT DO WE THINK THE WORK IS  
GOING TO BE FOR FLETCHER MAYNARD  
AND OTHER SCHOOLS THAT WE KIND  
OF HAVE IN THE PIPELINE, THE  
LONGFELLOW SCHOOL, THE DIFFERENT  
REPAIRS WE HAVE GOING ON THERE.  
THERE ARE SOME SIGNIFICANT  
INVESTMENTS.

>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR, TO THE  
BODY.

I LET VIDAD TALK ABOUT SPECIFIC  
PROJECTS BUT OUR HOPE IS TO MAKE  
SURE THAT THOSE FACILITIES  
SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING, THAT  
WE IMPROVE THE EXPERIENCES FOR  
STUDENTS WHO ARE THERE SOY THEY  
FEEL CAPABLE, CONFIDENT, AND  
SUPPORTED IN THEIR LEARNING.  
WE'VE IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF  
PROJECTS THAT WE THINK ARE  
CRITICAL TO THIS EFFORT AND THIS  
WORK IN TERMS OF JUST SOME OF  
THE PRODUCTS THAT VIDAD WILL

TALK ABOUT BRIEFLY.

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT WE ARE  
IMPROVING THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR  
THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE AND THE  
LONG TERM -- NOT THE LONG-TERM  
FUTURE BUT THE FORESEEABLE  
FUTURE.

WE KNOW WE WILL NOT BE ENGAGING  
IN MULTI -- BIG BUILDING  
PROJECTS MOVING FORWARD.  
THE IMPROVEMENT IS REALLY  
IMPORTANT.

MOST IMPORTANTLY FOR THE  
EXPERIENCE OF STUDENTS IN THOSE  
CLASSES.

WITH THAT VIDAD WILL TALK A  
LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT, AS YOU  
SAID, OR QUESTIONS ABOUT  
FLETCHER MAYNARD ACADEMY.

WE HAVE WORK HAPPENING THIS  
SCHOOL YEAR WE THINK -- OR THIS  
SUMMER WE THINK IS CRITICAL TO  
THE EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS AND  
THEIR SUCCESS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. SMITH.

AS FAR AS THE -- I'M GOING TO  
START WITH THE PROJECTS THAT ARE  
HAPPENING NOW THIS SUMMER.

LONGFELLOW BROADWAY, AS YOU  
MENTIONED, WE WILL BE REPLACING  
A ROOF AT THAT BUILDING AND WE  
WILL ALSO BE REPLACING UNIT  
VENTILATORS, UNITS FOR HEATING  
OF THAT BUILDING.

THOSE ARE PRETTY LARGE PROJECTS.  
THIS SUMMER WE'VE ALREADY  
RECEIVED THE BIDS, FIRST TIME IN  
A LONG TIME, IT CAME UNDER THE  
ESTIMATE WHICH IS VERY  
REFRESHING.

FOR FLETCHER MAYNARD WE HAVE FEW  
SMALL PROJECTS OVER THE SUMMER.

WE JUST DID THE GYM.

WE FINISHED THE FLOOR.

WE'RE GOING TO DO THE STAGE.

SPRUCE THAT UP.

AS OF NEXT YEAR WE'RE GOING TO



HAVE SOME SUBSTANTIAL PROJECTS THERE.

AS YOU KNOW WE'VE DONE THREE SIDES OF THE FACADE OF THE BUILDING WHICH CAME OUT VERY, VERY NICE.

WE HAVE TO STILL DO THE ONE IN THE BACK THAT'S VERY TIGHT WITH THE NEIGHBORS AND THE HOUSING THAT'S RIGHT THERE.

WE NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THAT SIDE.

IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE SCOPE OF WORK, WE'VE DISCOVERED THE WALL THAT'S ON THE ROOFTOP, THERE'S A ROOFTOP PLAYGROUND, THE WALL ON THAT SIDE OF THE BUILDING IS A LITTLE BIT COMPROMISED.

NEXT YEAR WE'LL BE TEARING DOWN THAT WALL AND PUTTING UP A NEW ONE, IN ADDITION TO REFINISHING THE ENTIRE FOURTH WALL OF THAT BUILDING.

THE YEAR AFTER THAT WE ACTUALLY PLAN ON REPLACING THE ACTUAL ROOF, THE PLAYGROUND ROOF. ALL THE PAVERS THAT ARE UP THERE NOW WILL BE REMOVED AND THE NEW ROOF MEMBER WILL BE PLACED AND WE WILL FIGURE OUT WITH THE SCHOOL WHAT THE BEST USE OF THAT SPACE IS.

AS YOU KNOW THEY HAVE A NICE PLAY FROWNED PLAYGROUND UP THERE PAINTED AND EVERYTHING.

WE'LL FIGURE OUT HOW THEY WANT TO KEEP IT.

WE'LL HAVE SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS HAPPENING AT LONGFELLOW BROADWAY THIS YEAR AND F.M.A. NEXT YEAR.

>> Councillor Wilson: THANK YOU.

THAT PLAYGROUND IS A LOT OF FUN THERE ON THE ROOF.

I HOPE IT'S A COMMUNITY PROCESS, I'M SURE WITHIN THE SCHOOL

COMMUNITY THEY WILL DETERMINE  
THEIR PLAN AS TO WHAT SHOULD  
HAPPEN UP THERE.

WILL THIS ALSO INCLUDE THE PARK  
AREA FOR THAT SCHOOL, FOR  
FLETCHER MAYNARD?

ANY REPAIR TO THE PARK?

>> WHEN YOU SAY PARK, DO YOU  
MEAN THE PLAYGROUND ON HARVARD  
STREET?

>> Councillor Wilson: NO.  
RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL.  
RIGHT THERE ON HARVARD -- IT IS  
ON HARVARD STREET BUT RIGHT IN  
THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND.  
THE SCHOOL'S PLAYGROUND.

>> THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND WAS  
DONE OVER THE SUMMER.  
YES.

IT WAS DONE BY D.P.W.  
THE RUBBER SURFACE ON THAT  
ENTIRE AREA WAS REDONE, AS WELL.

>> Councillor Wilson: THE  
BASKETBALL HOOP?

>> YES.

BRAND NEW.

YES, BRAND NEW BASKETBALL HOOP.  
THE WHOLE AREA WAS REDONE I  
WOULD SAY LAST FALL, MAYBE LATE  
SUMMER LAST FALL.

>> Councillor Wilson: THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH.

I YIELD.

>> Chair: THANK YOU.

I LOOK FORWARD TO MUCH OF THIS.  
THERE ARE SOME SCHOOLS IN NEED  
OF REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE AND I  
THINK IT WAS A FAILURE.

I OWN IT PARTLY AS SCHOOL  
COMMITTEE WE CLEARLY DIDN'T DO  
ENOUGH MAINTENANCE BECAUSE WE  
HAD TO TEAR DOWN BUILDINGS THAT  
IF WE MAYBE SPENT THE MONEY AND  
EFFORT OVER THE LAST 40 YEARS.  
THERE'S LOTS OF BUILDINGS THAT  
CAN LAST 50 YEARS.

I GET IT.

THERE'S ALWAYS A BALANCE.  
THIS CITY HAS BEEN THROUGH SOME  
CHALLENGES.

IS THERE -- I RECOGNIZE THERE'S  
LOTS OF WORK DONE BUT IS THIS A  
PLAN -- THE AMIGO SCHOOL IS THE  
ONE OUT OF MOST COMPLIANCE WITH  
STATE BUILDING CODES FOR  
STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS  
OF BATHROOM ACCESS AND OTHERS.  
WHERE IS THAT ON THE PLAN  
EVENTUALLY?

THE UPTON STREET BUILDING  
REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE SCHOOL  
BECOMES.

>> TO YOU MADAM CHAIR.  
WE HAVE DONE SOME ACCOMMODATIONS  
AS A PART OF THE ROOF  
REPLACEMENT PROJECT THAT WE JUST  
COMPLETED LAST YEAR.

SORRY, LAST SUMMER.  
THERE'S NOTHING SIGNIFICANT --  
THERE ARE NO -- NOTHING  
A.D.A. -- REGARDING A.D.A. IN  
QUESTION RIGHT NOW.

OBVIOUSLY THAT BUILDING NEEDS  
MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS.  
THE ONLY ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE IS  
FROM THE BACK OF THE BUILDING.  
THOSE ARE THE SORT OF THINGS WE  
ARE IN COMPLIANCE BUT,  
OBVIOUSLY, THAT BUILDING IS  
VERY, VERY OUTDATED AND WILL  
NEED SIGNIFICANT WORK.

I THINK AS WE WORK THROUGH THE  
RECENTLY COMPLETED FEASIBILITY  
STUDY AND FUTURE MAPPING OUT THE  
FUTURE OF OUR BUILDINGS AND WHAT  
NEEDS TO BE DONE, WE WILL DIVE  
IN A LITTLE BIT MORE INTO WHAT'S  
HAPPENING WITH A VERY SPECIFIC  
BUILDING.

THE PLAN WE HAVE RIGHT NOW DID  
COME OUT OF THAT.

ONLY ADDRESSING THE MOST  
IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

AMIGOS, AGAIN, JUST RECEIVED A

NEW ROOF LAST SUMMER.  
THE BOLDER IS ABOUT 15 YEARS  
OLD.

WE NEED TO PROBABLY FROM THE  
FIFTH YEAR ON WE SHOULD BE  
THINKING ABOUT A -- IT IS IN OUR  
10-YEAR PLAN TO REPLACE WINDOWS,  
TO UPGRADE PIPING THROUGHOUT THE  
BUILDING, DOMESTIC, WATER,  
SEWER, AND ALL OF THAT.

>> Chair: FROM WHAT I HEARD FROM  
STUDENTS THERE, UNLESS SOMETHING  
CHANGED, THE ONLY STUDENT  
BATHROOM IS IN THE BASEMENT FOUR  
FLOORS DOWN IN A POPULATION OF  
STUDENT THAT IS IS THE HIGHEST  
PERCENTAGE OF LATIN AND  
HISPANIC.

OLDER STUDENTS, GIRLS, MAY NEED  
THAT BATHROOM IN A DIFFERENT  
WAY.

I HOPE WE HAVE THAT ON THE PLAN  
TO ADDRESS THAT.

THAT'S NOT A GOOD SITUATION FOR  
THOSE STUDENTS.

THAT'S WHAT I MEANT BY IT IS --  
THAT IS -- LAST TIME I CHECKED A  
FEW YEARS AGO THAT WAS NOT UP TO  
CODE.

IF WE DID ANYTHING IT WOULD HAVE  
TO BE ADDRESSED.

>> THANK YOU.

>> Chair: I JUST HOPE IT'S ON  
THERE.

WE CANNOT HAVE SCHOOL BUILDINGS  
THAT ARE SO FAR SUBPAR FOR LARGE  
STUDENT POPULATION.

COUNCILLOR ZUSY.

>> Councillor Zusy: THROUGH YOU,  
CHAIR NOLAN.

I HEARD RUMORED, ISN'T THERE  
SOME THOUGHT THAT AMIGOS MIGHT  
MOVE TO THE NEW KENNEDY  
LONGFELLOW SCHOOL?

MAYBE THE OLD BUILDING WOULD BE  
SERVING A DIFFERENT FUNCTION.

>> Chair: THAT'S NOT SOMETHING

DECIDED WHAT WE UNDERSTAND.  
>> THROUGH YOU, CHAIR.  
EXACTLY WHAT YOU JUST SAID.  
>> Chair: IF IT'S USED AS A  
BUILDING IT SHOULD BE FIXED.  
IF IT'S USED AS A SCHOOL  
BUILDER.  
THAT'S WHY I SAID JUST THE UPTON  
STREET BUILDING.  
OKAY.  
NO QUESTIONS.  
IS THIS THE END OF OUR  
INCREDIBLE BUDGET PROCESS?  
WHO IS MOVING THE ENTIRE --  
COUNCILLOR WILSON WANTS TO MOVE  
THIS.  
PUBLIC INVESTMENT IS LISTED AS  
\$74 MILLION BUT THE GRAND TOTAL  
IS \$151 MILLION.  
WHICHEVER IT IS.  
THAT MAY BE BECAUSE OF BOND.  
WE ARE MOVING THIS FORWARD TO  
THE FULL CITY COUNCIL WITH A  
FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION.  
THE NUMBER ON THE SCREEN IS  
WRONG.  
IT'S \$151 MILLION FROM WHAT I  
SEE.  
DISCUSSION HAVING OCCURRED, ROLL  
CALL.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM?  
ABSENT.  
VICE MAYOR McGovern?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR NOLAN?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR  
SOBRINHO-WHEELER?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR TONER?  
COUNCILLOR TONER?  
ABSENT.  
COUNCILLOR WILSON?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR ZUSY?

>> YES.  
>> Clerk: MAYOR SIMMONS?  
ABSENT.  
YOU HAVE SIX MEMBERS RECORDED IN  
THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH THREE  
RECORDED AS ABSENT.  
>> Chair: D.C.M. REARDEN.  
>> BEFORE YOU RETURN FOR THE  
DAY.  
I WANT TO REMIND PEOPLE THAT  
TOMORROW AT 9:00 IN THE MAYOR'S  
PARLOR AT 9:30 WE HAVE THE  
EMPLOYEE AWARD CEREMONY.  
I WANT TO ENSURE EVERYBODY OF  
THAT AND LIKE TO SEE EVERYBODY  
THERE IF POSSIBLE.  
THANK YOU.  
>> Chair: BEFORE I ENTERTAIN A  
MOTION TO ADJOURN.  
CM DID YOU WANT TO --  
>> THANK YOU ALL.  
I HAVE A 30 MINUTE SPEECH TO  
CLOSE US OUT.  
I THINK WE'RE VERY GOOD.  
THANK YOU ALL FOR THE  
ENGAGEMENT.  
THIS HAS BEEN GREAT.  
>> Chair: I'M WAIVING THE  
READING OF THE ENTIRE BUDGET  
BOOK.  
IS THAT OKAY?  
IT IS GOOD READING AND WE WILL  
BE -- THIS HAS JUST BEEN  
REFERRED TO FULL COUNCIL.  
IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS  
FURTHER IT WILL BE ON THE  
COUNCIL AGENDA FOR ADOPTION.  
WITH THAT, COUNCILLOR  
SOBRINHO-WHEELER MOVES TO  
ADJOURN.  
ROLL CALL.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR AZEEM?  
ABSENT.  
VICE MAYOR McGovern?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR NOLAN?  
>> YES.

>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR  
SOBRINHO-WHEELER?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR TONER?  
ABSENT.  
COUNCILLOR WILSON?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: COUNCILLOR ZUSY?  
>> YES.  
>> Clerk: MAYOR SIMMONS?  
ABSENT.  
YOU HAVE SIX MEMBERS RECORDED IN  
THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH THREE  
RECORDED AS ABSENT.