

## RECONSIDERATION LIST

1. City Council support of the Massachusetts State Ballot Question to Decriminalize Natural Psychedelics For Therapeutic Use. (PO24#94)

## CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$24,020 to the Grant Fund License Commission (Consumer's Council) Salaries and Wages account (\$22,010); and the Grant Fund License Commission (Consumer's Council) Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$2,010). The funds will be used to allow the Consumers' Council to continue the mediation of consumer complaints from individuals in Cambridge as well as in Somerville, Arlington, Belmont, Watertown and Waltham which do not have their own complaint mediation program. (CM24#151)
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a recommendation from the Cambridge Election Commission regarding the assignment of thirty-two (32) police officers and any additional officers as required to the City's polling locations for all elections in FY25, pursuant to G.L. c. 54, §72. (CM24#152)
3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update on the Safety Net Family Shelter. (CM24#153)
4. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update on the Cambridge Preschool Program. (CM24#154) [[text of report](#)]
5. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$263,815 to the Grant Fund Department of Human Service Programs Salaries and Wages account (\$240,096), and to the Grant Fund Department of Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$23,719). (CM24#155)
6. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$180,000 to the Grant Fund Department of Human Service Programs Salaries and Wages account (\$106,947.40), to the Grant Fund Department of Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$54,052.60), and to the Grant Fund Department of Human Service Programs Travel and Training account (\$19,000). This is a grant that DHSP has received for many years. This grant covers twelve months of programming and will be used by the Center for Families to support a portion of the cost of 4 full-time staff and 2 part time staff salaries. (CM24#156)
7. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$1,148,777 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salaries and Wages account (\$1,105,839), to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$41,738), and to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Travel and Training account (\$1,200). (CM24#157)
8. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$213,494 to the

Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salaries and Wages account (\$211,085), to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$1,123), and to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Travel and Training account (\$1,286). (CM24#158)

9. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$100,000 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salaries and Wages account (\$42,982) and to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$57,018). (CM24#159)
10. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$7,000 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account. These funds are used annually to supplement fuel assistance payments. (CM24#160)
11. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$1,999.31 to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$1,999.31). These funds from MASSCAP, Inc. a private organization, will be used to provide assistance to Cambridge and Somerville residents with natural gas heating bills. (CM24#161)
12. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$85,000 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$85,000). The Department of Human Service Programs operates the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) serving Cambridge and Somerville. The additional \$85,000 in LIHEAP client benefits will be used for payment of clients' primary heating source, or for payment of a secondary heating source if there is no outstanding primary source balance. (CM24#162)
13. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$98,214, to the Grant Fund Human Service Department Programs Salaries and Wages account. These funds will be used to maintain the capacity of the Cambridge Employment Program by continuing to fund a vocational case manager to provide career counseling and case management services to Cambridge residents seeking employment, particularly those residing in public housing. (CM24#163)
14. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$513,500 to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$513,500). This award will be used to provide nutritious meals to Cambridge youth at over 50 meal sites throughout the City during the summer months when schools are closed. (CM24#164)
15. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a Surveillance Technology Impact Report (STIR). (CM24#149)
16. STIR NameUs (CM24#150)

17. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of 243,689.30, to the Grant Fund Police Department Extraordinary Expenditures account. This grant will support the purchase of some of the hardware necessary for the implementation of the Department's Body Worn Camera (BWC) Program. (CM24#165)
18. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of 120,000, received from the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health's Jail Diversion Program, to the Grant Fund Police Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$120,000). Grant funds will be used to support costs related to contracted services of a specially trained clinician that is responding to mental health calls throughout the city. (CM24#166)
19. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Numbers 24-33, 24-34 & 24-38, regarding Vision Zero responses. (CM24#167) [\[text of report\]](#)
20. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$175,000 from the Mitigation Revenue Stabilization Fund to the Public Investment Fund Traffic Extraordinary Expenditures account. These mitigation funds were received as part of the MIT PUD5 (south of Main Street / Kendall Square) Special Permit (PB #303) and will be used to partially fund the design of the Cambridge Street separated bike lanes and other associated street improvements. (CM24#168)
21. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report 24-19, regarding researching incentives and support for residents without cars. (CM24#169) [\[text of report\]](#)
22. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$527,800, received from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission Community Mitigation Fund to the Grant Fund Community Development Department Extraordinary Expenditures account (\$175,000); the Grant Fund Traffic Extraordinary Expenditures account (\$150,000); the Grant Fund Community Development Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$105,000); the Grant Fund Traffic Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$50,000); and the Grant Fund Police Salaries and Wages account (\$47,800). (CM24#170)
23. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the submission of the 2024 Affordable Housing Overlay Annual Report. (CM24#171) [\[text of report\]](#)
24. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$634,165.54, received from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the HOME Program to the Public Investment Fund Housing Department Extraordinary Expenditures account (\$570,748.99) and to the Grant Fund Housing Department Salaries & Wages account (\$63,416.55). (CM24#172)
25. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$2,420,070 received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of the Housing Opportunities for People with Aids (HOPWA) Grant, to the Grant Fund Community Development Department Other Ordinary Maintenance Account (\$2,347,468) and to the Grant Fund Community Development Department Salaries and Wages Account (\$72,602). The funds will be used for assisted living programs and supportive services, shelter services, rental assistance and housing search services. (CM24#173)
26. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$43,431 in the allocated amount for the FY25 Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) funding to be appropriated to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$18,316); and to the Public Investment Fund Community Development Extraordinary Expenditures account (\$25,115). (CM24#174)
27. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update on the Request for Information (RFI) for 84 & 96 Bishop Allen Drive. (CM24#175) [\[text of report\]](#)

#### **ORDERS**

1. That the City Manager is requested to reach out to the Executive Director of the Cambridge Housing Authority to explore the feasibility of utilizing the large screen televisions in the community rooms of CHA buildings to enable seniors living in these buildings to participate in (via public comment) and view City Council meetings as they are held. Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Toner, Councillor Azeem (PO24#96)
2. That the City Council requests that the Chair of the Human Services and Veterans Committee schedule a hearing to discuss concerns, evaluate current shelter operations, and explore potential improvements to ensure the welfare of shelter clients. Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Toner (PO24#97)
3. That the City Manager is requested to take the necessary actions to ensure the City's Gold Star Pool remains open through the end of September 2024, and shall be ready to open at the start of June 2025, three weeks earlier than the pool opened this year. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#98)
4. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to work with the City of Somerville to address the parking signage on Seven Pines Avenue. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Toner (PO24#99)
5. That the City Manager is requested to work with all relevant city and state departments to amend the Do Not Enter sign at the entrance of Whittemore Avenue from Alewife Brook Parkway to include an exception for abutters. Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Toner (PO24#100)

6. That the City Council will only consider Charter Review Committee recommendations which received a 2/3rds vote as stated in the Charter Review Ordinance. Councillor Toner, Councillor Pickett (PO24#101)
7. Requiring a 2/3rds vote for approving changes to be forwarded to the legislature and the voters on a future ballot. Councillor Toner, Councillor Pickett (PO24#102)
8. That the Mayor is requested to form a Special Committee of the Whole or hold a special City Council meeting to discuss the Charter Review Committee recommendations and plan the process moving forward. Councillor Toner, Vice Mayor McGovern (PO24#103)
9. That the City Manager is requested to urge the necessary departments to reconsider the initial plans for the Upstream Bridge/Draw One Bridge to include the construction of the pedestrian/bicycle pathway as has always been planned for the Draw One Bridge for train renovation and Upstream Bridge for pedestrian/bike crossing. Councillor Toner, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Nolan (PO24#104)
10. Recognize August to be “National Black Business Month” and in calling upon residents, local institutions, and businesses to recognize and support Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurs throughout our community. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Wilson (PO24#105)
11. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant staff and departments to conduct outreach to Cambridge colleges and universities about the pilot University Pass Program and coordinate with the MBTA and report back to the City Council on these outreach efforts. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Mayor Simmons, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan (PO24#106)
12. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant staff and departments to create a listserv for residents to sign up for that automatically emails an alert to subscribers when a board or commission vacancy occurs. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Wilson (PO24#107)
13. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Law Department to provide a legal opinion on whether Cambridge can enact a local ordinance or regulation similar to H.3685, which would prohibit associations from unreasonably restricting the use of a solar energy system, or whether the City should submit a Home Rule Petition to ensure access to solar energy for residents. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#108)
14. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant departments to review climate leading heating and cooling regulations and direct the appropriate departments to develop and implement a policy that aligns with Cambridge’s climate leadership to ensure that City operated buildings have default temperatures that align with health and sustainability best practices, including differing guidelines for workplace occupancy hours and outside of business hours. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Azeem (PO24#109)

15. That the City Manager is requested to work directly with the MBTA regarding the redevelopment of the Alewife garage and advocate for City priorities. Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Toner, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Wilson (PO24#110)
16. City Council endorsement of S.750, Primary Care for You (PC4YOU) legislation that doubles Primary Care investment and increases health equity in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Wilson, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler (PO24#111)

#### **ON THE TABLE**

1. That the City Manager is requested to explore the feasibility of delaying the Mass Avenue reconstruction project to minimize its impact upon the busy season for restaurants and other affected businesses, and, should this not be found feasible, a method of providing financial assistance to the impacted businesses to cover the costs of removing their outdoor dining structures, designed to mitigate some of the financial impacts upon them, should be established. [Charter Right – Simmons, June 3, 2024; Tabled as Amended June 10, 20-24] (PO24#70)
2. That the City Manager is requested to support local news production as a public good by conducting a \$100,000 per year city-backed news fund pilot for up to three years to be administered through an independent intermediary that will decide on funding criteria and selection of local newspapers that provide material coverage of Cambridge news. [Charter Right – Azeem, June 10, 2024; Tables June 17, 2024] (PO24#78)

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

3. An Ordinance 2023 #8B has been received from City Clerk, relative to Amend Chapter 14.04 – Fair Housing. [Passed to 2nd Reading Oct 2, 2023; Amended Nov 6, 2023; to remain on Unfinished Business pending legislative approval of Special Act needed prior to ordination] (ORD23-8B)

#### **APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

1. An application from Harvard Arts Museum requesting permission for 22 temporary pole banners around Cambridge Commons, Quincy Street and Cambridge Street Hovey to Felton announcing Free Every Day until Nov 29, 2024. (AP24#24)
2. An application from Walter Westcott, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 60 Rindge Avenue; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. No response has been received from the neighborhood association. (AP24#25)
3. An application from Ryan Boucher, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 55 Harvey Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. No response has been received from the neighborhood association. Response from

the Residents of Westley Avenue has been included.  
(AP24#26)

4. An application from Kistine Braccidiferro representing Jamie's Ice Cream Co., requesting permission for a projecting sign at the premises numbered 88 Kirkland Street approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and proof of abutters mailings has been provided. (AP24#27)
5. An application from Frank Meroney representing The Gardner School, requesting permission for a projecting sign at the premises numbered 111 First Street approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and proof of abutters mailing has been provided. (AP24#28)
6. An application from Eric Franco representing CVS, requesting permission for a projecting sign at the premises numbered 624 Massachusetts Avenue approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutter. (AP24#29)

## COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication from Aaron Shakow, regarding PO24#90 regarding the City Manager's negotiations with Harvard University on payment in lieu of taxation.
2. A communication from Ali Huberlie, regarding Please support safety improvements for intersections\_ and install separated bike lanes without delay.
3. A communication from Andrea Yakovakis, regarding Streets should be safe for everyone.
4. A communication from Anna Davis, regarding Don't delay bike lane improvements.
5. A communication from Annette LaMond, regarding Bicycle Safety.
6. A communication from Bouchard Guillaume, regarding Install protected lanes on Cambridge, Broadway, and Main ASAP!
7. A communication from Brendan Nicholas, regarding Safer Roads Now!
8. A communication from Brian Gilmore, regarding Please do not delay the bike lane construction!
9. A communication from Bronte Wen, regarding don't delay on bike lanes and intersection safety improvements.
10. A communication from Carol Lee Rawn, regarding Urging you to rescind your support for delaying safe street infrastructure in Cambridge.
11. A communication from Carolyn Fuller, regarding Transportation Committee - E-Bike & E-Scooter Regulations.
12. A communication from Carolyn Magid, regarding PO#3 on tonight's agenda.
13. A communication from Charlie Simek, regarding The city is it's people\_ not parking spots.
14. A communication from Clara Woods, regarding Bike Safety Improvements.
15. A communication from Clyve Lawrence, regarding Harvard organizations joint statement on Hampshire St. cyclist death.
16. A communication from Colonel Chytka, regarding Forwarding on Official Correspondence for your adjudication on behalf of your constituents.
17. A communication from Corinne Foley, regarding Please do not delay safety improvements.
18. A communication from Courtney Breslin, regarding Please support safety improvements for intersections\_ and install separated bike lanes without delay (5).
19. A communication from Cristina Dabaco, regarding Bike Infrastructure is an Urgent Issue!

20. A communication from Daniel Kats, regarding Bike safety (2).
21. A communication from David Brewster, regarding Left turn restriction at Appleton and Brattle.
22. A communication from David Galambos, regarding Another cyclist killed in Cambridge.
23. A communication from Diana Kumyкова, regarding Please support safety improvements for intersections and install separated bike lanes without delay (4).
24. A communication from Doug Brown, regarding July 11, 2024 Board of Zoning Appeal Agenda.
25. A communication from Erika Bergelson, regarding Bike lane improvements needed.
26. A communication from Gabriel Colombo, regarding Install Separated Bike Lanes to Prevent Deaths.
27. A communication from Hugo Olaciregui, regarding Urgent - Reconsider Delaying Safety Improvements on Cambridge St. & Broadway.
28. A communication from Ian Rudnick, regarding Trucks without side guards should be banned city-wide.
29. A communication from Jack Tuke, regarding Recent Bicycle Deaths.
30. A communication from John Hanratty, regarding Transportation Committee - Enforce no vehicles on sidewalks and enact micro mobility speed limits.
31. A communication from Joshua Hartshorne, regarding Cars kill businesses (and people).
32. A communication from Judy Somberg, regarding Please reverse the decision to delay further bike lanes.
33. A communication from Julia Sharpe, regarding Please Vote for Safer Streets.
34. A communication from Justin Marple, regarding Bike Safety (1).
35. A communication from Kavish Gandhi, regarding Public Comment, 6/24/2024.
36. A communication from Konstantinos Filiotis, regarding Transportation improvements.
37. A communication from Lee Farris, regarding Central Sq. zoning and outreach concerns.
38. A communication from Martin Breu, regarding The need is clear.
39. A communication from Matt Collie, regarding Please reconsider delaying bike infrastructure after multiple cyclist deaths.
40. A communication from Melissa Berlin, regarding Cancel bike lane delays.
41. A communication from Melissa Rivard, regarding Cambridge Bicycle Safety.
42. A communication from Mitchell Ostrow, regarding support safety improvements for intersections and install separated bike lanes without delay.
43. A communication from Nate Sharpe, regarding Please don't delay infrastructure safety improvements.
44. A communication from Nell Breyer, regarding Left turn restriction at Appleton and Brattle.
45. A communication from Niels Vanderloo, regarding Two deaths in two weeks - How many more will we (you) tolerate?
46. A communication from Nik Gjonbalaj, regarding Cancel the delays.
47. A communication from Nate Sharpe, regarding Please don't delay infrastructure safety improvements.
48. A communication from Patrick W Barrett III, regarding Council Agenda for Mon, June 24th 2024.
49. A communication from Paula Maute, regarding Please support safety improvements for intersections and install separated bike lanes without delay (3).
50. A communication from Rachel Szabo, regarding No more unacceptable delays for bike safety in Cambridge.
51. A communication from Rachel Zoll, regarding Improve Bicycle Safety for Cambridge Residents.
52. A communication from Robert Liu, regarding Delaying bike lane infrastructure costs lives.

53. A communication from Rosemarie Roque Gordon, regarding bike lane safety.
54. A communication from Samuel Bernstein, regarding Bike infrastructure.
55. A communication from Sara Oaklander, regarding Bike safety.
56. A communication from Rachel Szabo, regarding No more unacceptable delays for bike safety in Cambridge.
57. A communication from Rachel Zoll, regarding Improve Bicycle Safety for Cambridge Residents.
58. A communication from Robert Liu, regarding Delaying bike lane infrastructure costs lives.
59. A communication from Rosemarie Roque, regarding Gordon bike lane safety.
60. A communication from Samuel Bernstein, regarding Bike infrastructure.
61. A communication from Sara Oaklander, regarding Bike safety.
62. A communication from Sara Snow, regarding Please don't delay bike lanes.
63. A communication from Teresa Augustin, regarding Please support safety improvements for intersections.
64. A communication from Vickey Bestor, regarding, Double down on improving safety on our streets.
65. A communication from William Dean, regarding Don't Delay Bike Lane Intersection Improvements.
66. A communication from Young Kim, regarding Status of PO24#50 Adopted on 4/30/24.
67. A communication from Kristina Lauer, regarding Bike safety.
68. A communication from Maisie Smith, regarding Do better Bike safety NOW!
69. A communication from Chris M, regarding Urgent Call to Prioritize Bike and Pedestrian Safety in Cambridge.
70. A communication from Carl Hoffman, regarding Bike safety can't wait.
71. A communication from Aaron Shakow, regarding "You are nobody" Delivery trucks routinely blocking the bike lanes.
72. A communication from James Mahoney, regarding Please Seriously Consider Alternative Walden Square Plan.
73. A communication from Annette LaMond, regarding Stop the Slab & Tunnel Project at Walden Square.
74. A communication from Federico Muchnik, regarding Winn & Walden Sq. Road.
75. A communication from Federico Muchnik, regarding Petition clears 1200 names - Walden Sq. Road - Winn.
76. A communication from David A. Whelan, regarding questions for the Council about traffic enforcement and a local cannabis shop.
77. A communication from Lawrence Bradford, regarding Shelter Policy Order.
78. A communication from Rebecca, regarding Support for expanded pool days policy order.
79. A communication from Diane Martin, regarding Stop the Slab-And-Tunnel Project over Walden Square Road.
80. A communication from Camilla Elvis, regarding Support for Shelter policy order.
81. A communication from John Hanratty, regarding Support the neighborhood to increase units and reduce the tunnel at Walden Square Road.
82. A communication from Ann Spanel, regarding Winn Development & Walden Square Road.
83. A communication from Nancy Pendergast, regarding Winn Development & Walden Square Road.
84. A communication from Tris Anzells-Hopson, regarding Support for expanded pool days policy order (1).
85. A communication from Karen Lostritto, regarding Support for expanded pool days policy order.
86. A communication from Caleb Hurst-Hiller, regarding supporting the expanded pool days policy order.
87. A communication from Heather Hoffman, regarding Walden Square.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to George Hinds on 25 Years of dedication to the youth of the Cambridge. Councillor Toner
2. Congratulations to Chrisine Doucet on her retirement from the Department of Human Services. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons, Councillor Wilson
3. Condolences on the Death of Louis Tuccinardi. Councillor Toner
4. Condolences on the Death of Laurie K. Bartee. Councillor Toner
5. Condolences on the Death of Patricia "Pat" Daley. Councillor Toner
6. Congratulations to Kenneth Atwell on his retirement with the Cambridge Health Alliance. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
7. Congratulations to Fire Lieutenant Robert Golden on his retirement. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
8. Congratulations to Kevin Lucey on his retirement from the Cambridge Public Library. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
9. Congratulations to Josephine Reddin on her retirement from the Cambridge Health Alliance. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
10. Resolution on the death of Inez Mary Salesman. Mayor Simmons
11. Birthday wishes for Lawson Fitzherbert Greene on his 100th Birthday. Vice Mayor McGovern
12. Thanks to Flagg Street Studio and the Central Square BID for their commitment to the cultural and public life of the City. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Siddiqui
13. Resolution on the death of Francis Henry "Frank" Janul. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
14. Congratulations to Ellen Philbin on her retirement from the Cambridge Retirement Department. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
15. Congratulations to Cara Seiderman on her retirement from the Community Development Department. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
16. Condolences on the death of Leonard Vigilante. Councillor Toner

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The **Health and Environment Committee** held a public hearing on May 23, 2024 to discuss the ongoing partnership with Neville Manor. [[text of report](#)]
2. The **Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebrations Committee** held a public hearing on June 12, 2024 to discuss municipal broadband. [[text of report](#)]
3. The **Health and Environment Committee** held a public hearing on June 18, 2024 to review and discuss the first annual Green Jobs report, as required by the Green Jobs Ordinance, Article III Ch. 2.66.100. [[text of report](#)]

4. The **Ordinance Committee** held a public hearing on June 20, 2024 to discuss amendments to the Tenant’s Rights Ordinance recommended by the Law Department. [[text of report](#)]

A. An Ordinance has been received from City Clerk, relative to Tenants Rights 8.71.040.2 Notice by the City, City may publicize and provide information at events/programs about the requirements of Chapter 8.71 more frequently.

5. The **Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee** held a public hearing on June 25, 2024 to continue the June 5, 2024 discussion on Charter Review recommendations and develop draft recommendations to the full City Council for reviewing, deliberating, adopting, and processing possible changes to the Cambridge City Charter for future vote by Cambridge voters. [[text of report](#)]

The Committee voted to recommend the following to the Full City Council.

1. ORDERED: That the City Council only considers Charter Review Committee recommended Charter changes which received a 2/3 vote as stated in the Ordinance.
2. ORDERED: That the City Council requires a 2/3 vote for approving changes to be forwarded to voters on a ballot.
3. ORDERED: That the City Council form a Special Committee of the Whole or hold a Special City Council meeting to discuss the Charter Review Committee recommendations.

6. The **Economic Development and University Relations Committee** held a public hearing with Harvard, MIT, and Lesley Universities on June 26, 2024 to receive their “Town Gown” reports and to discuss current and potential programs and partnerships with the City. [[text of report](#)]

7. The **Housing Committee** held a public hearing on June 27, 2024 to further discuss multi-family housing and hear updates from the Community Development Department. [[text of report](#)]

8. The **Human Services and Veterans Committee** held a public hearing on July 16, 2024 to receive an update from the City’s Opioid Task Force and local providers regarding the opioid crisis in Cambridge and current and future interventions. [[text of report](#)]

9. The **Housing Committee** held a public hearing on July 17, 2024 to continue the discussion on allowing multifamily housing in all neighborhoods of the city. [[text of report](#)]

#### COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, transmitting an update regarding legislative activity. (COF24#106)
2. A communication from Councillor Toner, transmitting an update from the **Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee** regarding Charter Review. (COF24#107) [[text of report](#)]
3. A communication from Acting City Solicitor Megan B. Bayer, transmitting Tenant’s Rights and Resources Notification Ordinance. (COF24#108) [[text of report](#)]

#### HEARING SCHEDULE

##### Mon, Aug 5

10:30am The **Economic Development and University Relations Committee** will hold a public hearing with the City Manager to receive an update on and offer suggestions for consideration in the city’s negotiations with Harvard regarding future Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement.

5:30pm Special Summer Meeting – City Council

##### Tues, Aug 6

11:00am The **Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee** will hold a public hearing to receive an update from the City Manager on progress in meeting annual goals, as well as the timeline and process for completing this year’s evaluation. In addition, the Committee will begin discussions for creating a process for evaluation of the City Clerk, Auditor and Executive Assistant to the City Council.

##### Wed, Aug 7

3:00pm The **Finance Committee** will hold a public hearing to discuss status updates on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in Cambridge.

##### Wed, Aug 21

11:00am The **Housing Committee** will hold a public hearing to continue the discussion on allowing multifamily housing in all neighborhoods of the city.

##### Tues, Oct 8

11:00am The **Health and Environment Committee** will hold a public hearing to receive an update from city staff on BEUDO implementation and to review and discuss regulations, elements of BEUDO, and possible future updates.

##### Tues, Oct 22

11:00am The **Health and Environment Committee** will hold a public hearing to review and discuss the updates on the Zero Waste Master Plan (ZWMP).

#### TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Aug 5, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR TONER

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

WHEREAS: Participation in City Council meetings is crucial for maintaining an inclusive and representative government, and increasing the participation of senior citizens in these meetings would ensure that their voices and concerns would be better heard, more widely acknowledged, and more likely to be factored into City policies as they come into being, if only such participation could be cultivated; and

WHEREAS: There are challenges to this happening, though, as many seniors in our community face barriers to attending City Council meetings, including having mobility issues that can impede their ability to come to City Hall for meetings, and lack of access to or comfort with technology that would allow them to attend these meetings virtually; and

WHEREAS: The use of large screen televisions, coupled with Zoom technology, can facilitate greater engagement and involvement of seniors by allowing them to participate in public comments and view meetings from the comfort of their homes or buildings; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Housing Authority plays a pivotal role in providing housing and support services to a great number of our senior community members, and the organization could potentially assist in implementing and facilitating this initiative; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to reach out to the Executive Director of the Cambridge Housing Authority to explore the feasibility of utilizing the large screen televisions in the community rooms of CHA buildings to enable seniors living in these buildings to participate in (via public comment) and view City Council meetings as they are held; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-2 Aug 5, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: Numerous clients of Cambridge's homeless shelters and warming centers have raised concerns to the Mayor's Office about the conditions and management of these facilities; and

WHEREAS: These concerns span multiple areas of shelter operations at the Transitional Wellness Center, the Green Street Shelter, the Warming Center, and the 240 Albany Street Shelter, and while the following summary of concerns does not imply that each issue is present in every facility, it does represent a collective overview of issues reported across various shelters, and this overview includes the following:

- **Staff conduct and management issues**, including reports of verbal abuse, fears of retaliation, favoritism, bullying, racist remarks, and management allegedly protecting staff from complaint repercussions;
- **Privacy and confidentiality breaches**, such as staff sharing guests' private medical information and other breaches of client confidentiality;
- **Sanitation and health issues**, including unsanitary mats and blankets causing medical issues, non-functional sinks and showers, lack of basic hygiene supplies like soap and toilet paper, infestations (particularly body lice), and excessive heat in shelters;
- **Inadequate resources and supplies**, with reports of a general lack of material supplies and shelters running out of essential items such as blankets;
- **Lack of care for personal property**, including insufficient attention to residents' valuables and reports of items being stolen or lost while in shelter care;
- **Inconsistent rule enforcement and fairness issues**, such as uneven application of shelter rules, arbitrary restrictions on activities like television viewing, and challenges for clients in meeting shelter requirements while maintaining outside employment;
- **Ineffective complaint and accountability systems**, particularly, failure to adequately address complaints submitted to the proper channels, and allegations of false accusations being used to discredit legitimate complaints; and

WHEREAS: These issues potentially impact the safety, dignity, and well-being of some of Cambridge's most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS: Those running homeless shelters and warming centers face significant challenges, including limited resources, high demand for services, complex client needs, and staffing difficulties, and some of the concerns raised may not have simple or immediate solutions, yet the Council nonetheless believes it is crucial to address these issues to the best of our ability to improve the quality of care for our vulnerable populations; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council formally requests that the Chair of the Human Services and Veterans Committee schedule a hearing to discuss these concerns, evaluate current shelter operations, and explore potential improvements to ensure the welfare of shelter clients.

O-3 Aug 5, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The summer of 2024 has continued the global warming trend of increasingly hot summers, with temperatures consistently above average, and access to public swimming pools is a crucial resource for residents to cool down and enjoy recreational time during these hot summer months; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has several public outdoor swimming pools, including the Gold Star Pool run by the City's DHSP, the state-run Francis J. McCrehan Memorial Swimming and Wading Pool, and the state-run Veterans Memorial Swimming Pool at Magazine Beach, and it is vital that residents have easy access to the hours and contact information for these public pools, as well as other water play parks, through the City's website; and

WHEREAS: Information about the McCrehan pool is not currently included on the City's pools and water feature website; and

WHEREAS: Collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) officials shall be necessary to explore the feasibility of opening the McCrehan and Veterans Memorial pools earlier in the season and keeping them open later into the year to better serve the community's needs; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to take the necessary actions to ensure the City's Gold Star Pool remains open through the end of September 2024, and shall be ready to open at the start of June 2025, three weeks earlier than the pool opened this year; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ensure that the hours and contact information for all public swimming pools and water play parks are prominently displayed and easily accessible on the City's website; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to liaison with the appropriate DCR officials to explore ways to open public pools earlier in June and extend their operations later into September to accommodate the increasingly hot summers; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-4 Aug 5, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: Seven Pines Avenue is a residential street where one side is reserved for Cambridge residential parking and the other side is reserved for Somerville residential parking; and

WHEREAS: Numerous signs are posted along both sides of the street to indicate the designated parking areas, yet the current signage can be confusing to those seeking to park in the appropriate, legal parking spaces; and

WHEREAS: This confusion has led to instances where individuals have been ticketed for parking violations that only resulted due to unclear signage as to where they could and could not legally park; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to work with the City of Somerville to address the parking signage on Seven Pines Avenue in the hopes of developing and implementing signage that is more easily read and digestible for this street to prevent unnecessary ticketing; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-5 Aug 5, 2024  
VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI  
COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: Alewife Brook Parkway experiences crippling congestion daily between the Concord Turnpike interchange and Massachusetts Avenue during the evening rush hours that can ensnarl commuters through numerous light cycles; and  
WHEREAS: For those who reside on Whittemore Avenue or one of its connecting streets, access to this residential neighborhood is cut off from 3:00pm to 7:00pm even to abutters, causing further consumption of time, fuel, and road space as residents are forced to drive through the Massachusetts Avenue intersection; and  
WHEREAS: A Policy Order ([PO20#8](#)) regarding this issue was passed on Jan 27, 2020, but not acted upon by the city; now therefore be it  
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with all relevant city and state departments to amend the Do Not Enter sign at the entrance of Whittemore Avenue from Alewife Brook Parkway to include an exception for abutters; and be it further  
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council by the City Council meeting on Sept 16, 2024.

O-6 Aug 5, 2024  
COUNCILLOR TONER  
COUNCILLOR PICKETT

WHEREAS: On June 25, 2024, the Government Operations, Rules, and Clams Committee met to discuss the recommendations of the Charter Review Committee (CRC); and  
WHEREAS: The Committee voted to recommend that the full City Council only consider Charter Review Committee recommendations which received a 2/3rds vote as stated in the Charter Review Ordinance by a vote of 3 in favor, 1 Present, and 1 Opposed; now therefore be it  
ORDERED: That the City Council will only consider Charter Review Committee recommendations which received a 2/3rds vote as stated in the Charter Review Ordinance.

O-7 Aug 5, 2024  
COUNCILLOR TONER  
COUNCILLOR PICKETT

WHEREAS: On June 25, 2024, the Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee met to discuss the recommendations of the Charter Review Committee (CRC); and  
WHEREAS: The Committee voted to recommend that the full City Council require a 2/3rds vote of the City Council for approving recommended changes to be forwarded to the legislature and the voters on a future ballot question by a vote of 3 in favor, 1 Present, and 1 Opposed; now therefore be it  
ORDERED: That the City Council requires a 2/3rds vote for approving changes to be forwarded to the legislature and the voters on a future ballot.

O-8 Aug 5, 2024  
COUNCILLOR TONER  
VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: On June 25, 2024, the Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee met to discuss the recommendations of the Charter Review Committee (CRC); and  
WHEREAS: The Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Mayor either form a Special Committee of the Whole or hold a special City Council meeting to discuss the Charter Review

Committee recommendations and plan the process moving forward; now therefore be it  
ORDERED: That the Mayor is requested to form a Special Committee of the Whole or hold a special City Council meeting to discuss the Charter Review Committee recommendations and plan the process moving forward.

O-9 Aug 5, 2024  
COUNCILLOR TONER  
VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN  
COUNCILLOR AZEEM  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the Upstream Bridge/Draw One Bridge renovation project is proceeding and initial plans do not include the originally planned Central Artery Commitment of a pedestrian/bicycle connection to connect Nashua Street Park in Boston to North Point Park in Cambridge; and  
WHEREAS: This pedestrian crossing has always been part of the plan (See [Table 2 Action Plan for 2015-2018](#)) within the Executive Summary of the Department of Conservation and Recreation Charles River New Basin Resource Management Plan and is already delayed by many years, since unfortunately, no timeline or plans were outlined for the completion of this pedestrian/bike pathway; and  
WHEREAS: The Upstream pedestrian/bicycle connection is critical to providing a safe, reliable, and more convenient transportation option for tourists, commuting employees and local residents looking to cross the Charles River on foot or by bicycle to or from North Station area in Boston and the North Point neighborhood in Cambridge; and  
WHEREAS: [Cambridge Crossing](#) is a new 43-acre neighborhood in East Cambridge with 2.1 million square feet of new commercial space, 2.4 million square feet of new residential space, 100,000 square feet of dining and retail space and 11 acres of open and green space; and  
WHEREAS: The Community Path Extension from Somerville, the North Point Path and the Grand Junction Path in Cambridge will one day converge in the North Point neighborhood and, when conveniently connected across the Charles River to Boston, will unlock safe and reliable sustainable transportation options across the region; and  
WHEREAS: This new neighborhood has the potential to be one where a large percentage of trips can be made by walking, bicycling, and taking transit, if it is conveniently connected to nearby destinations such as North Station and the dense surrounding employment, shopping, and entertainment area; and  
WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has long supported this pedestrian/bicycle path to improve connectivity in the region as East Cambridge is becoming a more and more connected region for locals, tourists, and employers; now therefore be it  
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to communicate with and urges the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, specifically the Secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, General Manager of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Secretary of the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to review the initial plans and to revise them to include the construction of the pedestrian/bicycle pathway.

O-10 Aug 5, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS  
COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge recognizes that a strong and diverse business community is key to the vitality, vibrancy, and inclusivity of our city; and

WHEREAS: The contributions of Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurs to the social, economic, and cultural fabric of Cambridge are invaluable and indispensable; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge appreciates the continued commitment of Black-owned businesses to creating local jobs, improving economic resilience, fostering innovation, and contributing to our unique and vibrant community; and

WHEREAS: The challenges and systemic barriers faced by Black entrepreneurs and business owners, including but not limited to inequities in access to capital and business networks, have historically and continue to persist; and

WHEREAS: National Black Business Month is observed annually in August, across the United States, to highlight the importance of Black businesses and their significant contribution to the growth and stability of the national economy, and it is important that we continue to recognize this month in Cambridge; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record recognizing August to be “National Black Business Month” and in calling upon residents, local institutions, and businesses to recognize and support Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurs throughout our community.

O-11 Aug 5, 2024

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER  
MAYOR SIMMONS  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN

WHEREAS: College students in Cambridge rely on various forms of transportation to get around the region, including traveling between campuses, to jobs and internships, or to experience restaurants, history, and other cultural events; and

WHEREAS: The MBTA recently announced a two-year pilot program, the [University Pass Program](#), that provides unlimited bus and subway travel to university students; and

WHEREAS: Through this program, [Tufts University](#) will offer free and unlimited subways and bus travel to its students for the next two years; and

WHEREAS: University students make up a significant portion of Cambridge’s population and the pilot program could help reduce traffic and emissions in the city, as well as reduce cost-burdens for low-income students; and

WHEREAS: The MBTA is still seeking university participants for this pilot program, though most semester pass orders need to be completed before August 15; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant staff and departments to conduct outreach to Cambridge colleges and universities about the pilot program and coordinate with the MBTA and report back to the City Council on these outreach efforts.

O-12 Aug 5, 2024

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER  
COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has nearly 50 boards and commissions to aid in the process of decision-making and in determining the direction of our community; and

WHEREAS: The City recognizes that “[serving on a board or commission can be a rewarding experience and an excellent way to contribute to the quality of life](#)” of our community and relies on the

perspectives of these volunteer members to help determine Cambridge’s future; and

WHEREAS: Vacancies on these boards and commissions arise for any number of reasons, and City staff and departments conduct outreach in numerous ways to fill them; and

WHEREAS: Many residents rely on email as a main source of news and connection, and many municipalities in the Commonwealth have found success in maintaining a listserv alerting residents when there are vacancies for their boards, commissions, and committees; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant staff and departments to create a listserv for residents to sign up for that automatically emails an alert to subscribers when a board or commission vacancy occurs.

O-13 Aug 5, 2024

COUNCILLOR NOLAN  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: Solar generation continues to be an important part of the City’s renewable energy portfolio and the City continues to expand options through on-site [municipal installation](#) and [community solar efforts](#), and the addition of privately-owned solar panels can help add to the renewable energy footprint of the city, allowing more residents to take advantage of renewable energy and cost-savings; and

WHEREAS: [Cambridge Energy Alliance](#) has resources and tools for residents and building owners to take advantage of solar power and energy savings through Sunny Cambridge, and additionally has resources specific for [multi-unit buildings](#) like condominiums, townhouses, and multifamily buildings; and

WHEREAS: Conflicts due to condominium and homeownership association agreements can be a barrier to install solar panels or other renewable energy devices and laws have been enacted in [California](#) and [Florida](#) which allow owners to install solar panels; and

WHEREAS: [Massachusetts](#) law determines that local zoning ordinances cannot prohibit solar installation, and [Cambridge Zoning Code \(Art. 22.60\)](#) ensures that existing solar systems are protected from shadings from new or re-development, and currently pending Massachusetts bill [H.3685](#) would provide similar protections to the laws passed in California and Florida; and

WHEREAS: Similar conflicts have arisen in the past related to sustainable energy use and in 2019 the City Council filed a [policy order](#) requesting passage of a “Right-to-Charge” law, which the City Manager responded to with [CMA 2019 #216](#) and was passed into law via Home Rule Petition on [December 2022](#); this law grants owners of units in condominiums and multi-family buildings the right to install electric vehicle (EV) charging in their building; and

WHEREAS: In addition to the City’s commitment to solar energy production and promotion, private installation of solar panels can help add renewable energy production within the city; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Law Department to provide a legal opinion on whether Cambridge can enact a local ordinance or regulation similar to H.3685, which would prohibit associations from unreasonably restricting the use of a solar energy system, or whether the City should submit a Home Rule Petition to ensure access to solar energy for residents; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council by October 2024.

O-14 Aug 5, 2024  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER  
COUNCILLOR AZEEM

WHEREAS: Cambridge is committed to combat climate change in part through improving energy efficiency and helping reduce energy usage during peak times, including heating load in the winter and air conditioning load during the summer; and

WHEREAS: Throughout City operations, Cambridge has shown leadership in promoting energy efficiency and practicing energy saving techniques; one prominent example is through Water Department operations, strategically limiting Department energy usage during peak demand times; and

WHEREAS: From Sept 15 to June 15, Massachusetts [regulation](#) requires building temperatures of at least 64 degrees Fahrenheit at night and 68 degrees during the day, and note that temperatures should not exceed 78 degrees; and Massachusetts also publishes [guidelines for workplace temperature regulation](#) and suggests offices be heated at a minimum of 66 degrees to 68 degrees; and

WHEREAS: [California regulations](#) require temperatures in government buildings to be no higher than 68 degrees F in winter and no lower than 78 degrees F in summer (unless such a temperature in a particular job or occupation may expose employees to a health and safety risk); and [Washington, D.C.](#) government guidelines are that summer temperatures for institutional and government buildings be set to 78 degrees F when the work place is occupied, and 85 degrees F after business hours; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant departments to review climate leading heating and cooling regulations and direct the appropriate departments to develop and implement a policy that aligns with Cambridge's climate leadership to ensure that City operated buildings have default temperatures that align with health and sustainability best practices, including differing guidelines for workplace occupancy hours and outside of business hours; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on recommendations for policy and implementation by October 2024.

O-15 Aug 5, 2024  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI  
COUNCILLOR TONER  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN  
COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the MBTA-owned Alewife station garage will be redeveloped; and

WHEREAS: The City Council has sought to increase livability, and enhance the area around Alewife, which has been growing with recently added housing units and jobs; and

WHEREAS: This area would benefit from transportation improvements including adding a commuter rail stop, and a pedestrian/bicycle/shuttle bridge; and

WHEREAS: The MBTA is opening an opportunity for potential developers to build on 13 acres in and around the Alewife Station, and offering a potential 20+ acres for redevelopment that would free up after relocation of commuter rail maintenance and repair operations; and

WHEREAS: Given the strained MBTA capital budget, officials likely intend to engage a developer to tear down the garage and rebuild parking for the T under a long-term lease for the broader acreage; and

WHEREAS: The process for this will began [Aug 8, 2024, when MBTA officials will host a forum](#) to meet with interested firms; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work directly with the MBTA regarding the redevelopment of the Alewife garage and advocate for City priorities; and be it further  
RESOLVED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to keep the City Council informed about any updates related to this re-development.

O-16 Aug 5, 2024  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI  
COUNCILLOR WILSON  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The cost of health insurance for families and businesses, and the cost of overall healthcare in the Commonwealth of MA, is prohibitively expensive; disincentivizing people from accessing Primary Care, and establishing relationships with a personal physician and/or interprofessional care teams; and

WHEREAS: High-Quality Primary Care is defined as the provision of whole-person, integrated, accessible, and equitable healthcare by interprofessional teams who are accountable for addressing the majority of an individual's health and wellness needs across settings and through sustained relationships with patients, families and communities; and

WHEREAS: Inadequate Primary Care capacity contributes to a sharp increase in catastrophic economic and social costs including, widespread chronic illness, compounding of comorbidities, absence of preventative care, and hospitals and emergency departments stretched beyond capacity and understaffed; and

WHEREAS: Primary Care impacts a life from birth through healthy childhood and adolescence, older adulthood, and senior years by supporting preventative care, helping those with chronic conditions, and countless other interventions including prenatal care, disability care, and critical mental healthcare; and

WHEREAS: As the Nation recovers from COVID-19, the need for investment in health centers, primary care practices, as well as other community-based healthcare resources has been underscored, specifically the need for equitable, low-barrier, cost-efficient options such as telehealth, and a diverse healthcare workforce focused principally on underserved communities; and

WHEREAS: Currently, one-third of the Massachusetts Primary Care workforce is over 60 years old, and primary care clinicians are experiencing high rates of burnout, retiring early, reducing their hours, or are leaving the profession altogether; and

WHEREAS: [The 2021 National Academies of Sciences Engineering and Medicine issued a consensus study report](#) declaring Primary Care as the only aspect of health care that delivers both better health and improved health equity; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record supporting [S.750, Primary Care for You \(PC4YOU\)](#), legislation that doubles Primary Care Investment in Massachusetts, and increases health equity in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this policy resolution to Governor Maura Healey, Secretary of EOHHS Kate Walsh, Undersecretary of EOHHS Kiame Mahaniah, Senator Cindy Friedman, Representative John Lawn, Senate President Karen Spilka, Speaker Ron Mariano, Senator Sal N. DiDomenico, Representative Marjorie Decker, and Representative Mike Connelly.