

## RECONSIDERATION

1. Requiring a 2/3rds vote for approving changes to be forwarded to the legislature and the voters on a future ballot. (PO24#102) [Filed by Councillor Toner who was not on the prevailing side of that vote, and who intends to move suspension of the rules to allow this motion for Reconsideration]

## CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a Surveillance Technology Impact Report (STIR). (CM24#176)
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointment of **Irene Monroe** to the Cambridge Library Board of Trustees. (CM24#177)
3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointment of **Avanti Tilak** to the Open Data Review Board for a term of two-years. (CM24#178)
4. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$15,603.12 to the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Other Ordinary Maintenance Account. Funds will be used for quality assurance (call review) for the emergency medical protocol used by staff to provide pre- and post-dispatch instructions for medical emergencies. (CM24#179)
5. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$300,027.61 received from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, State 911 Department, to the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Department Salary and Wages account (\$195,084.41), the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$3,130) and the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Department Travel and Training account (\$101,813.20). This formula-based reimbursement grant will support training of Emergency Communications Center personnel, classroom fees, and training materials. (CM24#180)
6. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$574,531, received from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, State 911 Department, to the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Department Salary and Wages account (\$481,080), and the Grant Fund Emergency Communications Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$93,451). This formula-based reimbursement grant will support the costs of Emergency Communications Center personnel salaries, overtime, and annual maintenance costs of dispatch-related software. (CM24#181)
7. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a report detailing the Board of Zoning Appeal's proposed modifications to the Zoning Ordinance, specifically concerning the implementation of dormer guidelines. (CM24#182) [[text of report](#)]
8. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointments and reappointments of the following persons to the Family Policy Council; Appointments: **Interim Superintendent David Murphy**. Reappointments: **Tina Alu, Michael Johnston, Michelle Lower, Geeta Pradhan, Bridget Rodriguez, Elizabeth Stapleton** (formerly Elizabeth Hill), **Tagesech Wabeto**. (CM24#183)
9. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-41, regarding the City's Gold Star Pool summer schedule and the possibility of extending public swimming pool availability. (CM24#184) [[text of report](#)]
10. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$11,500 received through a donation from the T. Baker Fund, Inc. for the City of Cambridge STEAM Initiative, to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$11,500). These funds were donated by the T. Baker Fund, Inc. and will be used to support the Cambridge STEAM Initiative's Makerspace efforts. (CM24#185)
11. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$10,000 received from the Cambridge Community Foundation, for the College Success Initiative (CSI), to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Department salaries and wages account. These funds will be used to support part of the salary costs associated with a college success coach who will provide individualized college coaching for students attending UMass Boston and for graduates of the Community Learning Center's Bridge to College program who attend Bunker Hill Community College. (CM24#186)
12. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$18,711 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$18,711). These additional funds will be used for HEAP client benefits. (CM24#187)
13. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$6,505, received from donations to The Cambridge Program for Individuals with Special Needs, to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account. Funds were generously donated in memory of Paul Ryder, who served as the City's Director of Recreation from 1982-2016. The Cambridge Program will use the funds to purchase supplies and equipment to better support participant and program needs. (CM24#188)
14. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the reappointments of **David Lyons** and **Elyse Magnotto-Cleary** and the appointments of **Khyati Saraf** and **Lorie Graham** as Members of the Conservation Commission for a term of three-years. As well as the appointment of **Jim Gerstle** and **Sean Bedingfield** as

- Associate Members of the Conservation Commission for a term of one year. (CM24#189)
15. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$15,101.85, to the Grant Fund Public Works Other Ordinary Maintenance account. These funds will supplement the 2023 RDP grant award of \$110,500 appropriated in March 2024. (CM24#190)
  16. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$416,991, received from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to the Grant Fund Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures account to support the purchase of an all-electric rubbish packer. (CM24#191)
  17. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$200,000 from the General Fund Public Works Salary and Wages account to the General Fund Public Works Travel and Training (Judgment and Damages) account to cover current and projected FY25 costs related to Public Works personnel injured in the course of their job. (CM24#192)
  18. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$276,800, received from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program to the Grant Fund Public Works Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account. This grant will focus on increasing urban trees, create a map of high and low tree mortality areas across the Mystic River Watershed, and establish a regional urban forests working group of municipal tree wardens to develop strategies to maximize the likelihood of urban trees growing to maturity and identify priority areas where environmental justice communities live, travel and go to cool off during hot summers. (CM24#193)
  19. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-08, regarding recommendations for the refinement and improvement of the housing permitting process. (CM24#194) [\[text of report\]](#)
  20. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$350,000, from the General Fund Employee Benefits Salaries and Wages Account to the General Fund Employee Benefits Travel and Training Account. Funds will be used to cover the costs of anticipated payments of workers compensation medical bills for personnel injured in the course of their job, through the end of FY25. (CM24#195)
  21. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-26, regarding clarification on the Wage Theft Ordinance. (CM24#196) [\[text of report\]](#)
  22. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to extending the prior authorization for the City Manager or their designee to grant street

obstruction approvals, along with any other necessary approvals for temporary obstructions until June 30, 2025. (CM24#197) [\[text of report\]](#)

Agenda Item No. 21 Sept 9, 2024

ORDERED: That from this date until June 30, 2025, due to the restaurant community's continued need to expand outdoor dining services and consistent with the change in state law that waives the requirement that the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission approve amendments to licenses to provide for outdoor alcoholic beverage table service, and consistent with the City's Outdoor Dining Policy, until June 30, 2025, all applications for temporary street obstructions for outdoor dining services will hereby be referred to the City Manager or their designee with authorization to act.

#### ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to prioritize the repair of the water bubbler at Anderson Tennis Courts on Pemberton Street. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Toner (PO24#112)
2. That the City Council go on record acknowledging September as Suicide Prevention Month. Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor McGovern (PO24#113)
3. Declare September as National Recovery Month. Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor McGovern (PO24#114)
4. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to provide a comprehensive report outlining the City's knowledge of the garbage chute issues at 1 Leighton Street. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Toner (PO24#115)
5. That the City Manager is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to enact policy that will extend the priority period for Social Equity and Equity Empowerment cannabis business applicants for a period of six months to one year, or until guidance has been received from the Cannabis Control Commission. Mayor Simmons, Councillor Toner, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#116)
6. That the City Manager direct the Community Development Department (CDD) and the Law Department to draft zoning language based on the proposal discussed at the Housing Committee to eliminate exclusionary zoning and allow up to six stories of multifamily housing in all residential districts. Councillor Azeem, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#117)
7. That the City Manager directs CDD to hold public meetings to inform the Cambridge community about the proposed changes before any public hearings of the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Board on this topic. Councillor Azeem, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#118)
8. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant departments to provide a status update on the implementation of the PACE program and provide resources and information for property owners; and provide any recommendations for expanding PACE adoption. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Toner (PO24#119)

9. That the City Manager is requested to provide an update on progress towards providing a recommendation for changes to the existing ordinance and a report on the impact of the Short-Term Rentals in Cambridge, including how enforcement happens and how many units are registered and available. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Wilson, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#120)
10. That the City Manager be hereby and is requested to work with relevant staff to provide an update on the status of the Vail Court property and associate litigation in Said S. Abuzahra, Trustee of Equity Realty Trust, et al. v. City of Cambridge, in Executive Session if necessary, at a future meeting. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Wilson (PO24#121)
11. That this City Council go on record calling for MIT's dissociation from the fossil fuel industry in the Climate Project. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Nolan (PO24#122)
12. That the City Manager is requested to provide a status Update on Automated Parking Enforcement. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Azeem, Vice Mayor McGovern (PO24#123)

#### **CHARTER RIGHT**

1. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a Surveillance Technology Impact Report (STIR). [Charter Right – Sobrinho-Wheeler, Aug 5, 2024] (CM24#149)
2. An application was received 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. [Charter Right – Nolan, Aug 5, 2024] (AP24#26)

#### **ON THE TABLE**

3. 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, 2024] (PO24#70)

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

4. 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)
5. 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. [Passed to 2nd Reading, Aug 5, 2024; Eligible To Be Ordained (no expiration date)] (ORD24#3)

#### **APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

1. An application was received from DND Homes LLC., requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 490 Putnam Avenue; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. Approval response has been received from the neighborhood association. (AP24#30)
2. An application was received from John Felix, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 316 Pearl Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. Approval response has been received from the neighborhood association. (AP24#31)
3. An application was received from FAST SIGNS OF WOBURN representing Bom Dough, requesting permission for a projecting sign at the premises numbered 1 Canal Park. approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and proof of abutters mailing has been provided. (AP24#32)
4. An application was received from Pamela Jagiello representing STUDS, requesting permission for an awning at the premises numbered 1 Brattle Square Unit 2C. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and proof of abutters mailing has been provided. (AP24#33)

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. A communication was received from Alex Hines, regarding I oppose private development on public land. (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda).
2. A communication was received from Andrew King, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda).
3. A communication was received from Annamay Bourdon, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (5).
4. A communication was received from Cathy Hoffman, regarding CDD RFI.
5. A communication was received from Chris Duncan, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (1).
6. A communication was received from Dan Phillips, regarding In support of two housing items.
7. A communication was received from Dan Totten, regarding RFI update.
8. A communication was received from Danielle, regarding In support of affordable housing at 84 and 96 Bishop Allen Drive (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda).
9. A communication was received from David Fichter, regarding and Debra Wise Future Development at Starlight Square must remain in public/city control, not a private developer partnership.

10. A communication was received from Donna Palermino, regarding Opposing private redevelopment of the city lot that was formerly home to Starlight.
11. A communication was received from Ellen Mei, regarding I support public development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda).
12. A communication was received from Federico Muchnik, regarding Winn Development's memo dated Aug 3, 2024.
13. A communication was received from Hatch, regarding Starlight redevelopment.
14. A communication was received from Helen Walker, regarding Please Support of PO#6 (PO24#101) and PO #7 (PO24#102).
15. A communication was received from Jacquelyn Smith, regarding Bishop Allen Drive Parcels 84 and 96.
16. A communication was received from Jana Odette, regarding Winn Development & Walden Square Road (10).
17. A communication was received from Janet Moses, regarding, Omo Moses and Maisha Moses Starlight Lot.
18. A communication was received from Jonathan Slate, regarding REQUEST FOR VOTE AGAINST PLANNED CURB CUT REQUEST ON WESTLEY AVENUE BY DEVELOPERS OF 55 HARVEY STREET.
19. A communication was received from Julie Bernstein, regarding Testimony on CM24#149.
20. A communication was received from Kathy Watkins, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (9).
21. A communication was received from Leigh Manley, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (7).
22. A communication was received from Linda Moussouris, regarding Alerting the Committee on University Relations & Economic Devt. to statewide PILOT efforts, questions as to what Harvard & MIT might do about PILOT.
23. A communication was received from Manik Dhar, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (2).
24. A communication was received from Margery Davies, regarding PLEASE VOTE FOR PO24#108 and PO24#109.
25. A communication was received from Marilee Meyer, regarding CHARTER REVIEW- please support a strong manager and 2/3 vote.
26. A communication was received from Marilyn Frankenstein, regarding please get a better deal on Harvard's PILOT.
27. A communication was received from Maritza Soto, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (8).
28. A communication was received from Matthew Schreiner, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (6).
29. A communication was received from Max, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (3).
30. A communication was received from Nancy Pendergast, regarding Policy Orders.
31. A communication was received from Rika Welsh, regarding Email from 4 constituents who oppose private development on public land without allowing public input (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda).
32. A communication was received from Sheli Wortis, regarding PILOT from Harvard U.
33. A communication was received from Shelley Rieman, regarding Future of Starlight Square space.
34. A communication was received from Stephen Cellucci, regarding I oppose private development on public land (CM #27 on 8/5 agenda) (4).
35. A communication was received from Steven Sands, regarding Winn Development & Walden Square Road.
36. A communication was received from Suzanne Bas, regarding Davis CM24#87 public land use.
37. A communication was received from Vickey Bestor, regarding Harvard PILOT contributions for Housing.
38. A communication was received from Mary Ellen Kent, regarding Petition #3.
39. A communication was received from Mr. Hasson J. Rashid, regarding Election Official Factsheet.
40. A communication was received from Nina Herrera, regarding Air pollution's deadly toll in Massachusetts.
41. A communication was received from Helen Walker, regarding In Memorium Joan Pickett.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to Karen Roust on her retirement. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
2. Condolences on the death of James M. "Jim" Albert. Councillor Toner
3. Retirement of Dennis John Paul Kaveney from the First Church Shelter. Vice Mayor McGovern
4. Condolences on the death of Thomas Murphy. Councillor Toner
5. Condolences to the family of Valerie Corr Hanserd. Mayor Simmons
6. Condolences to the family of City Councillor Joan Pickett. Mayor Simmons, Vice Mayor McGovern, Councillor Toner, Councillor Siddiqui

R-6 Sept 9, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR TONER

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: It is with profound sorrow that the City

Council learned of the passing of our esteemed colleague and friend, City Councillor Joan Pickett, on August 31, 2024 at the age of 69; and

WHEREAS: City Councillor Joan Pickett was a dedicated public servant and a resident of Mid-Cambridge for the past 26 years, bringing a strong background in planning, municipal finance, and community leadership to the City Council during her tenure; and

WHEREAS: Prior to joining the City Council, Joan Pickett's distinguished career included significant contributions in commercial lending, municipal bond finance, and strategic planning at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where she worked closely with both academic and community physicians and staff; and

WHEREAS: Joan Pickett's commitment to community service was demonstrated through her leadership roles in

organizations such as the Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association, Cambridge Streets for All, the Charles River Conservancy, and Caring Canines Pet Therapy, where she worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Cambridge residents and beyond; and

WHEREAS: Joan Pickett's dedication to ensuring that the City's policies reflect the broad sentiment of the community, her desire to ensure that all community voices were given ample consideration in creating City policies, and her focus on maintaining the City's strong financial position were hallmarks of her service on the City Council; and

WHEREAS: Joan Pickett earned the respect, admiration, and affection of her colleagues and people throughout the Cambridge community for her warmth, her thoughtfulness, her desire to serve, and her willingness to engage with every person she came across with a sense of true decency; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge community will greatly miss Joan Pickett's thoughtful approach to governance, her commitment to transparency and accountability, and her unwavering dedication to making Cambridge a safe, vibrant, and inclusive city for all, and her Council colleagues shall surely miss her warmth, knowledge, and amiability; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record expressing its deepest condolences to the family, friends, and community of City Councillor Joan Pickett for their tremendous loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Adane Dessie, husband of City Councillor Joan Pickett, on behalf of the entire City Council.

7. Congratulations to the Honorable Laurence Pierce on his retirement from the Court. Councillor Toner
8. Condolences on the death of Frederick James "Freddie" Cabral. Councillor Toner
9. Best wishes to Nathan Klima as he begins studies at MIT and thanks for his commitment and service to the residents of Cambridge. Councillor Azeem, Vice Mayor McGovern
10. Congratulations to Detective Brian O'Connor for being awarded the American Donald D. Drummond International Member of the Year Award. Councillor Toner
11. Congratulations to Donald Copeland on his retirement. Councillor Toner, Mayor Simmons
12. Congratulations to the organizers of the 5th Annual Community Cookout. Councillor Wilson

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The **Transportation and Public Utilities Committee** held a public hearing on June 25, 2024 to discuss the micromobility memo prepared by Acting City Solicitor Bayer, for updates from the Community Development Department and the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department on related topics and to discuss next steps. [[text](#)

[of report](#)]

**Present:** Pickett, Toner

**Remote Present:** Azeem, Sobrinho-Wheeler, Wilson

**Also Present:** Nolan

2. The **Economic Development and University Relations Committee** held a public hearing on Aug 5, 2024 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. [[text of report](#)]  
**Present:** Siddiqui, Toner, Wilson  
**Remote Present:** McGovern, Sobrinho-Wheeler  
**Also Present:** Simmons, Nolan
3. The **Government Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee** held a public hearing on Aug 6, 2024 to receive and 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 of evaluation of the City Clerk and City Auditor. [[text of report](#)]  
**Present:** Sobrinho-Wheeler, Toner  
**Remote Present:** McGovern  
**Also Present:** Simmons, Nolan, Siddiqui, Wilson.  
**Absent:** Azeem, Pickett
4. The **Finance Committee** held a public hearing on Aug 7, 2024 to discuss status updates on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in Cambridge. [[text of report](#)]  
**Present:** Nolan, Siddiqui, Sobrinho-Wheeler, Wilson  
**Remote Present:** McGovern, Toner,  
**Absent:** Azeem, Pickett
5. The **Housing Committee** held a public hearing on Aug 21, 2024 to continue the discussion on allowing multifamily housing in all neighborhoods of the City. [[text of report](#)]  
**Remote Present:** Azeem, McGovern, Siddiqui, Sobrinho-Wheeler, Wilson  
**Also Present:** Toner, Simmons
1. That the Housing Committee recommends that the Full City Council requests that the City Manager direct the Community Development Department (CDD) and the Law Department to draft zoning language based on the proposal discussed at the Housing Committee to eliminate exclusionary zoning and allow up to six stories of multifamily housing in all residential districts, and bring back any analysis (if available) on displacement concerns, and report back to the City Council by Sept 15, 2024.
2. That the Housing Committee recommends that the Full City Council requests that the City Manager directs CDD to hold public meetings to inform the Cambridge community about the proposed changes before any public hearings of the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Board on this topic.

**COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS**

- 1. A communication was received from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, transmitting an update regarding legislative activity. (COF24#118)
- 2. A communication was received from Brian Corr, Executive Director, Police Review & Advisory Board, transmitting Police Review and Advisory Board Quarterly Report for 2023 Q4. (COF24#119)
- 3. A communication was received from Brian Corr, Executive Director, Police Review & Advisory Board, transmitting Police Review and Advisory Board Quarterly Report for 2024 Q1. (COF24#120)

**HEARING SCHEDULE**

**Mon, Sept 9**

12:00pm The **Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebrations Committee** will hold a public hearing to discuss truck safety in Cambridge.

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Sept 16**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Sept 23**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Sept 30**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Oct 7**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

6:30pm **PROPERTY TAX RATE CLASSIFICATION** - The Cambridge City Council will conduct a public hearing related to setting the property tax rate classification. The purpose of said public hearing is to gather testimony, information and public input concerning the property tax rate classification. All persons wishing to be heard shall be afforded the opportunity. Under the laws of the Commonwealth, the City has the option of taxing residential and commercial/industrial property at different tax rates. At this public meeting, the City Council will review tax rates/classifications proposed by the City Manager and the Board of Assessors. The votes taken will result in property tax rates that reflect the city’s property tax levy for Fiscal Year 2025, including the granting of the residential exemption.

**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.

**Mon, Oct 21**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**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).

**Mon, Oct 28**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Nov 4**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Nov 18**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Nov 25**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Dec 2**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Dec 9**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Dec 16**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Dec 23**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**Mon, Dec 30**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

**TEXT OF ORDERS**

O-1 Sept 9, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the water bubbler located at Anderson Tennis Courts on Pemberton Street has been out of order since the beginning of summer; and  
WHEREAS: Multiple reports have been made to various city offices, yet the issue remains unresolved, the availability of functional water bubblers is essential for the comfort and well-being of residents and visitors, particularly during the hot summer months, and the prompt repair of the water bubbler is necessary to ensure the continued usability of the Anderson Tennis Courts; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to prioritize the repair of the water bubbler at Anderson Tennis Courts on Pemberton Street, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-2 Sept 9, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: September is Suicide Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness of the often stigmatized and taboo topic of suicide, with the goal of shifting public perception, spreading hope, and providing critical information to those affected by suicide; and  
WHEREAS: Suicidal thoughts, like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background, and are often an indicator of more serious, untreated mental health issues; and

WHEREAS: High-risk populations, including young adults aged 18-25, high school students, LGBTQ youth, American Indian/Alaskan Natives, and those in local jails, experience a significantly higher prevalence of serious suicidal thoughts and attempts, with suicide being a leading cause of death in these groups; and

WHEREAS: Suicide rates and the prevalence of serious suicidal thoughts vary significantly across demographic groups, with higher risks observed among American Indian/Alaskan Natives, LGBTQ+ youth, and those in local jails – specifically, data from the CDC, NIMH, and other sources highlight that 41% of LGBTQ+ youth, 22% of high school students, and 13% of young adults aged 18-25 have serious thoughts of suicide – and men are four times more likely to die by suicide than women, with suicide being a leading cause of death among people aged 10-24, the third leading cause among those aged 15-24, and the twelfth leading cause overall in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS: Critical resources such as the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, the Crisis Text Line, and other support services are available to help individuals, families, and communities prevent suicide, anyone experiencing a mental health crisis is urged to call or text 988 immediately, chat at 988lifeline.org, or text NAMI to 741-741 to connect with a trained crisis counselor, and the City

Council is committed to ensuring that every constituent knows they are valued and important, and reminds the community that no one is alone in facing mental health challenges; now therefore be it  
ORDERED: That the City Council go on record acknowledging September as Suicide Prevention Month and in expressing its gratitude to the Cambridge Public Health Department, the Cambridge Health Alliance, and mental health providers throughout Cambridge and beyond for their commitment to supporting individuals experiencing a mental health crisis; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record reminding each and every constituent that they are valued, important, and that their lives matter, and that nobody is truly alone in our community.

O-3 Sept 9, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: Behavioral health is an essential component of overall health and wellness – prevention of substance use disorders is effective, treatment is successful, and recovery is possible for individuals in our community and across the nation; and

WHEREAS: Stigma against substance use disorders hinders recovery by discouraging individuals from seeking treatment and leading them to believe that recovery is unattainable, and education on the nature of addiction is crucial for reducing stigma and fostering a supportive environment for those affected by substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is committed to recognizing and supporting residents with substance use disorders, as well as those in recovery, and City officials, community partners, social service organizations, and residents have collaboratively developed a comprehensive response encompassing prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery; and

WHEREAS: Each year, the loss of community members to substance use disorders is a profound tragedy for the individuals and their loved ones, and support and resources for recovery can be accessed at the Community Behavioral Health Center at CHA Cambridge Hospital or through the MA Substance Use Helpline; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record declaring September as National Recovery Month and in calling upon the people of Cambridge to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities, reflecting this year’s theme, “The Art of Recovery”; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council affirms to every constituent that they are valued, that their lives matter, and that we are a united community where no one should ever feel alone.

O-4 Sept 9, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: The high-rise apartment building located at 1 Leighton Street has experienced ongoing issues with its garbage chutes for several years, resulting in significant inconvenience and potential health concerns for those living in the building’s more than 400 units; and

WHEREAS: Tenants across numerous floors have reported various problems with the garbage chutes, including inconsistent operation of chute doors, unclear and inconsistent rules for garbage disposal, ambiguous guidance on the frequency and process of trash room maintenance, and related quality of life issues; and

WHEREAS: Despite numerous attempts by City departments and staff to assess and resolve these issues over a period of years, the problem has persisted through changes in building management

and ownership, without clarity as to why a resolution has been so elusive; and

WHEREAS: The ongoing nature of these issues continues to impact the health, safety, and wellbeing of the residents at 1 Leighton Street, necessitating a sustained and coordinated response from the City to ensure a permanent resolution; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to provide a comprehensive report outlining the City’s knowledge of the garbage chute issues at 1 Leighton Street, including the history of the problem, past efforts made by the City to address these issues, and an assessment as to why the resolution has been elusive; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to develop and propose potential next steps for addressing and resolving these issues in collaboration with the building’s current owners and management, and to report back to the City Council on this matter no later than Nov 4, 2024.

O-5 Sept 9, 2024

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR TONER

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The current priority period for cannabis business applicants is set to expire in late September 2024, and there is a recognized need to extend this period to ensure the City has adequate time to meet the Cannabis Control Commission’s equity requirements; and

WHEREAS: Since 2019 the City’s Cannabis Business Permitting Ordinance has had a permitting preference period for priority applicants, which for two years applied exclusively to Economic Empowerment Applicants, and for three additional years applied to all Group A Priority Applicants which include Economic Empowerment Applicants, Social Equity Program Applicants, Women or Minority Owned businesses, or Cambridge residents for at least the three previous years prior to application earning less than fifty percent (50%) of Area Median Income (AMI); and

WHEREAS: The Cannabis Control Commission promulgated regulations that address municipal equity requirements in 2023 and the City has not found out yet whether the equity measures in place in the Cannabis Business Permitting Ordinance, including the preference period for Group A priority applicants, and equity measures the City has taken in implementing the Cannabis Business Permitting Ordinance and entering into Host Community Agreements, satisfy those requirements; and

WHEREAS: It is also essential to coordinate the timing of the priority period extension with the pending response from the Cannabis Control Commission regarding compliance with equity applicant prioritization; and

WHEREAS: An extension of the priority period is being proposed for a limited duration of between six months to one year to allow for compliance while preventing the permanent exclusion of medical cannabis businesses, and City staff are expected to provide the City Council with a recommendation on the appropriate duration for the extension, while ensuring that all stakeholders are adequately considered; and

WHEREAS: The City Council acknowledges the need to also establish a framework for discussing additional cannabis-related issues that do not have immediate time constraints, such as allowing on-site repackaging of products within local dispensaries, the 1800-foot minimum distance requirement between cannabis businesses, and the lack of zoning provisions for social

consumption establishments, which are now permitted under state law; now therefore be it  
ORDERED: That the Chair of the Economic Development and University Relations Committee be and hereby is requested to schedule a hearing to discuss cannabis policy issues, including the potential allowance for repackaging of products at local dispensaries, the 1800-foot minimum distance requirement between cannabis businesses, and the lack of zoning provisions for social consumption establishments that are now permitted under state law; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City staff to enact policy that will extend the priority period for Group A Priority Applicants as defined in Section 5.50.020 of the Cannabis Business Permitting Ordinance, which includes Social Equity and Equity Empowerment cannabis business applicants, for a period of 6 months to 1 year, or until guidance has been received from the Cannabis Control Commission, and to report back to the City Council on this matter in a timely manner.

O-6 Sept 9, 2024  
COUNCILLOR AZEEM  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The Housing Committee met on Aug 21, 2024 and voted favorably to recommend that the Full City Council requests that the City Manager direct the Community Development Department (CDD) and the Law Department to draft zoning language based on the proposal discussed at the Housing Committee to eliminate exclusionary zoning and allow up to six stories of multifamily housing in all residential districts, and bring back any analysis (if available) on displacement concerns, and report back to the City Council by Sept 15, 2024.

ORDERED: That the City Manager direct the Community Development Department (CDD) and the Law Department to draft zoning language based on the proposal discussed at the Housing Committee to eliminate exclusionary zoning and allow up to six stories of multifamily housing in all residential districts and bring back any analysis (if available) on displacement concerns, and report back to the City Council by Sept 15, 2024.

O-7 Sept 9, 2024  
COUNCILLOR AZEEM  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The Housing Committee met on Aug 21, 2024, and voted favorably to recommend that the Full City Council requests that the City Manager directs CDD to hold public meetings to inform the Cambridge community about the proposed changes before any public hearings of the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Board on this topic.

ORDERED: That the City Manager directs CDD to hold public meetings to inform the Cambridge community about the proposed changes before any public hearings of the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Board on this topic.

O-8 Sept 9, 2024  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI  
COUNCILLOR TONER

WHEREAS: As part of the City's efforts to assist building owners in making crucial energy efficiency upgrades and reduce the use of fossil fuels, the use of PACE was supported by the City's Climate Protection Action Committee, the Climate Crisis Working Group, and the City Council in a [policy order from October 2020](#); and

WHEREAS: Following that Council request, the City Manager followed up with a recommendation that the [City Council authorize](#) the City Manager to implement the [PACE program](#) in the City of Cambridge on Aug 7, 2023, which change was approved unanimously; and

WHEREAS: PACE will be an essential financing tool for commercial property owners to take advantage of as they consider ways to reduce their carbon emissions and specifically to comply with the requirements of the BEUDO ordinance; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant departments to provide a status update on the implementation of the PACE program and provide resources and information for property owners; and provide any recommendations for expanding PACE adoption; 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-9 Sept 9, 2024  
COUNCILLOR NOLAN  
COUNCILLOR AZEEM  
COUNCILLOR WILSON  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: On Sept 11, 2023, the City Council unanimously passed [PO23#115](#), which asked the City Manager to provide a report on the use of short-term rentals in Cambridge, including numbers of registered units and how that compares to public listings, data on usage, whether the City can have access to data from rental services and state agencies, and whether the city needs additional ordinance language to improve enforcement; and

WHEREAS: The intent of the [Short-Term Rentals \(STR\) Ordinance](#), which passed in August 2017 and made the operation of short-term rentals legal for Cambridge residents, was to enhance the city by supporting residents wanting to operate STRs without compromising housing availability or affordability; and

WHEREAS: While there are [state](#) and [municipal](#) requirements for short-term rental operators, there are examples from other places with different rules which might be appropriate for Cambridge, now that the experience of the past seven years can be reviewed; and

WHEREAS: There have been instances reported to the City Council of neighbors who have provided their evidence that some residents are not following the rules, yet determining whether the rules are being followed and enforcing them can be challenging; and

WHEREAS: With the ongoing question of the need to balance resident and visitor interest in short term rentals with the city's goals of supporting livable neighborhoods, preventing the ordinance from being used to avoid hotel regulations, and encourage long term rentals; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide an update on progress towards providing a recommendation for changes to the existing ordinance and a report on the impact of the Short-Term Rentals in Cambridge, including how enforcement happens and how many units are registered and available; 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-10 Sept 9, 2024  
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER  
VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN  
COUNCILLOR WILSON

ORDERED: That the City Manager be hereby and is requested to work with relevant staff to provide an update on the status of the Vail Court property and associate litigation in Said S. Abuzahra,



Trustee of Equity Realty Trust, et al. v. City of Cambridge, in Executive Session, if necessary, at a future meeting.

O-11 Sept 9, 2024

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

WHEREAS: MIT has recently announced plans to consolidate climate and energy research, as well as directing more funding to these efforts under the new [Climate Project](#) initiative; and

WHEREAS: While this research is incredibly important to understand and find new ways to create renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, MIT has not committed to dissociating from the fossil fuel industry, [which contributes to concerns about research bias](#); and

WHEREAS: Other institutions, including Harvard, Columbia, and the University of California system, have divested their endowments from fossil fuel investments while Princeton and Cambridge Universities have entirely dissociated from fossil fuel companies out of acknowledgement of the harm the industry causes the environment and in the fight for climate justice; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in support of MIT Divest's open letter calling for MIT's dissociation from the fossil fuel industry in the Climate Project; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to MIT President Sally Kornbluth and the lead architect of the Project Professor Richard Lester on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-12 Sept 9, 2024

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: On Nov 20, 2023, the City Council unanimously passed [PO23#209](#), which asked the City Manager to consider a pilot program for automated parking enforcement using [MPS SafetyStick](#) technology; and

WHEREAS: Parking violations are not victimless crimes and can affect disability parking access, transit service, loading zones, bicycle safety, and emergency vehicle access, and it is important for Cambridge to continue to improve street safety through enforcement of parking violations; and

WHEREAS: Since the policy order was passed, a number of other cities, in Massachusetts and elsewhere, have begun ticketing using camera-equipped bollards, and the City of Boston has also considered similar technology; and

WHEREAS: Boston and Cambridge have unique legal considerations in terms of Massachusetts municipalities under G.L. c.90, §20A ½ when it comes to parking enforcement and some work has been done to consider ways in which automated enforcement is possible under state law, with two possible pathways outlined in a legal opinion ([attached](#)) provided to Boston and shared with Cambridge city administration; and

WHEREAS: This technology would not cost the city any money, and could prove useful for enforcement in our commercial squares where parking violations are typically more prevalent and disruptive to other users of the space and where parking enforcement officers may not be able to keep up with the number of infractions; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide a status update on considerations for the pilot program and report back to the City Council by October 2024.