

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on COVID-19.
2. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$170,975 from Free Cash to the General Fund Elections Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used to cover the additional costs associated with recently approved vote by mail-in, and early voting for the municipal election, Nov 2, 2021.
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$100,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures Account to purchase 25 mobile radios for Public Works response vehicles.
4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$32,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Public Works Extraordinary Expenditures Account for repair costs associated with the City's Warming Center.
5. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$1,500,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund Fire Extraordinary Expenditures account which will be used to purchase of two 1250GPM Fire Pumps.
6. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the reappointment of Albert Darling as a Constable for a term of three years, effective the first day of January, 2021.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. The Health and Environment Committee met on Apr 14, 2021 to conduct a public hearing regarding the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Zondervan in Council Oct 4, 2021]

ON THE TABLE

2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-13, regarding next steps on implementation of Universal Pre-K. [Placed on the Table in Council May 17, 2021]
3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-41, regarding a report on closing Mass Ave from Prospect Street to Sidney Street on Friday and Saturday evenings. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor McGovern in Council June 28, 2021; Placed on the Table in Council Aug 2, 2021]
4. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-56, regarding improvements to Jerry's Pond and along Rindge Avenue. [Placed on the Table by Mayor Siddiqui in Council Sept 13, 2021]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. A [Zoning Petition](#) has been received from Michael Jeremy Yamin, regarding Yard Setback Zoning Petition.

11.207.5.2 Dimensional Standards for AHO Projects

11.207.5.2.3 Yard Setbacks

- (a) For the purposes of this Section, the applicable District Dimensional Standards shall not include yard setback requirements based solely on a formula calculation as provided in Section 5.24.4 of the Zoning Ordinance but shall include non-derived minimum yard setback requirements set forth in Article 5.000 or other Sections of this Zoning District but no less than 50% of the Base District formula calculations in all cases.
 - (b) Front Yards. An AHO project shall have a minimum yard minimum front yard setback 15 feet, except where the District Dimensional Standards establish a less restrictive requirement, or may be reduced to the average of the front yard setbacks of the four (4) nearest pre-existing principal buildings that contain at least two Stories Above Grade and directly front the same side of the street as the AHO project, or may be reduced to a minimum often (10) feet in the case of an AHO project on a corner lot but no less than 50% of the Base District formula calculations in all cases. Where the District Dimensional Standards set forth different requirements for residential and non-residential uses, the non-residential front yard setback requirements shall apply to the entire AHO Project if the Ground Story contains a nonresidential use as set forth in Section 11.207.4 paragraph {b} above; otherwise, the residential front yard setback shall apply.
 - (c) Side Yards. An AHO project shall have a minimum side yard setback of seven and one-half (7.5) feet or may be reduced to the minimum side yard setbacks set forth in the district dimensional standards for residential uses that is not derived by formula if it is less restrictive but no less than 50% of the Base District formula calculations in all cases.
 - (d) Rear Yards. An AHO project shall have a minimum rear yard setback of twenty (20) feet or may be reduced to the minimum rear yard setback set forth in the District Dimensional Standards for residential uses that is not derived by formula if it is less restrictive.
 - (e) Projecting eaves, chimneys, bay windows, balconies, open fire escapes and like projections which do not project more than three and one-half (3.5) feet from the principal exterior wall plane, and unenclosed steps, unroofed porches and the like which do not project more than ten (10) feet beyond the line of the foundation wall and which are not over four (4) feet above Grade, may extend beyond the minimum yard setback.
 - (f) Bicycle parking spaces, whether short-term or long-term, and appurtenant structures such as coverings, sheds, or storage lockers may be located within a required yard setback but no closer than seven and one-half (7.5) feet to an existing principal residential structure on an abutting lot.
2. A [Zoning Petition](#) has been received from Karen Cushing, regarding Off Street Parking consistent with the base zoning

district, in order to minimize the use of on-street parking in the surrounding area.

Petition from Karen Cushing to amend zoning ordinance 2020-8 (Affordable Housing Overlay), section 11.207.6.1 (a) and (b) (Required Off-Street Accessory Parking):

Requested modification:

11.207.6.1 Required Off-Street Accessory Parking

- (a) The required minimum number of off-street parking spaces for an AHO Project shall be the same as required in the base zoning district.
- (b) An AHO Project of greater than 20 units shall provide or have access to either on-street or off-street facilities that can accommodate passenger pick-up and drop-off by motor vehicles and short-term loading by moving vans or small delivery trucks. The Cambridge Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department shall certify to the Superintendent of Buildings that the AHO Project is designed to reasonably accommodate such activity without causing significant hazard or congestion. The Cambridge Director of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation shall have the authority to promulgate regulations for the implementation of the provisions of this Paragraph.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Caitlin Anderson, regarding After school care.
2. A communication was received from Dac Hoang, regarding Cycling Safety Ordinance.
3. A communication was received from Joe Rose, regarding First Second Street Corridor Study Comments.
4. A communication was received from Sarah Swettberg Ed.M, FNP, BCC, regarding Cambridge HEART program.
5. A communication was received from Jeanne Oster and Annette Osgood, regarding Save Mass Ave Save Our City Online Petition Paper Petition - 503 signatures.
6. A communication was received from Yi Sheng Wang, regarding Cycling Safety Ordinance.
7. A communication was received from Susan Meagher and Kerry Denvir, regarding Policy Order POR 2021 #210.
8. A communication was received from Sharon Stichter, regarding Porter square De Facto Simulation of Mass Ave Safety Improvement Project - Dudley St to Alewife Brook Pkwy.
9. A communication was received from Young Kim, regarding De Facto Simulation of Mass Ave Safety Improvement Project - Dudley St to Alewife Brook Pkwy.
10. A communication was received from the community, regarding Carl Barron Plaza reconstruction.
11. A communication was received from Robert J. LaTrémouille, regarding City Council funds major environmental destruction at Magazine Beach.
12. A communication was received from Jeanne Oster, regarding to expand the definition of the Mass Ave Four so

all streets between Alewife Brook Parkway and Everett St can be looked at together as a cohesive whole.

13. A communication was received from Hasson Rashid, regarding the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) held a meeting on Sept, 13,2021 as part of it's Moving to Work/ Cambridge Housing Authority Annual Plan (MTW/ CHA Annual Plan).

RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to Cicada Coffee Bar. Vice Mayor Mallon
2. Thanks to Christina Correia, Director, the team at the Animal Commission, and the Pet Food Task Force for their innovation to solve the growing need for pet food within Cambridge. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Toomey, Mayor Siddiqui
3. Congratulations to Jessica Lander on being named one of the Top 50 finalists for the 2021 Global Teacher Prize. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon
4. Congratulations to Helen Sullivan and Rafael Rivera on the birth of their daughter Xiomara Cristina Rivera Sullivan. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Toomey
5. Resolution on the death of Margaret "Peggy" Hoffman Pedro. Councillor Toomey, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Simmons
6. Resolution on the death of Rina Spence. Councillor Nolan
7. Resolution on the death of Mary Carbone. Councillor Toomey
8. Resolution on the death of Rose (DiBella) Santoro. Councillor Toomey
9. Congratulations to Ms. Pariss Chandler on Making the "2021 BBJ Power 50: Movement Makers List." Vice Mayor Mallon
10. Resolution on the death of Sarah C. (McGuinness) Dinan. Councillor Toomey
11. Resolution on the death of Frank Primavera. Councillor Toomey

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Public Works Department to repair the grass at Greene-Rose Heritage Park and ensure that the area is kept well-maintained. Councillor Simmons
2. That the City Council go on record prioritizing Cambridge residents for Building Pathways. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Simmons, Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui
3. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the Commission on Immigrant Rights and Citizenship and other relevant City staff to determine the feasibility of creating a uniform process for aiding the resettlement of refugees in Cambridge. Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
4. That the City Manager is requested to determine the feasibility of purchasing property from Lesley University to address City goals. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Simmons

5. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant City departments to place a cricket field in one of the Cambridge parks. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Carlone, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
6. That the City Manager is requested to appoint a task force that will hold regular public meetings to solicit ideas and feedback from residents on the distribution of American Rescue Plan Act funds. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Simmons, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
7. That the City Manager is requested to work with the appropriate City departments to place a plaque in honor of Thom Doyle at Pacific Field to honor his commitment to our children and his volunteer efforts on their behalf. Councillor McGovern
8. That the City Manager is requested to work with the appropriate City departments to start placing QR codes on signage around these projects so that interested parties can quickly and easily access information regarding these projects to promote information sharing and transparency. Councillor McGovern, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
9. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate staff of both the City and State to confirm if the Truck Restriction map is up to date, who should be enforcing the ban on Alewife Brook Parkway, and what actions can be taken moving forward. Councillor Toomey
10. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department and the City of Belmont about what improvements may be made to the Huron Avenue and Grove Street intersection and adjoining sidewalks. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui
11. City Council support for the proposed site location for Eversource's Geothermal Pilot Program project. Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui
12. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant City departments to support the Uplift the Solar Energy Industry in Massachusetts coalition. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Zondervan
13. That the City Council go on record in reaffirming strong support for H.1426/S.890, the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Mayor Siddiqui

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui, communicating information from the School Committee.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Oct 18

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Oct 20

11:00am The Ordinance Committee will meet to conduct a hearing on an ordinance amendment to reduce or limit campaign donations. (Zoom)

Mon, Oct 25

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 1

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Nov 17

4:00pm The Public Safety Committee will meet to hear an update on the city's implementation of the HEART proposal as part of an alternative public safety response. (Zoom)

Mon, Nov 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 6

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 13

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 20

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 27

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Oct 18, 2021

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: It has recently come to the City Council's attention that the turf on Greene-Rose Heritage Park has fallen into disrepair, with large patches of dead grass blemishing the area; and

WHEREAS: How a city maintains its parks, streets, and other public areas communicates a message about the value of the people in those neighborhoods to the city at large, and it is therefore important that Cambridge strive to keep all our city parks clean and well-maintained; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Public Works Department to repair the grass at Greene-Rose Heritage Park and ensure that the area is kept well-maintained.

O-2 Oct 18, 2021

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: In 2018, the City Council took a strong position to ensure that our residents had clear pathways to construction trade careers by working to establish a Cambridge based Building Pathways Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship program; and

WHEREAS: The Building Pathways Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program "helps participants learn about the industry, practice hands-on skills, and compete for apprenticeship program openings;" and

WHEREAS: Building Pathways further "provides a gateway for low-income area residents, particularly in underserved communities, to access family-sustaining careers in the construction industry through apprenticeship preparedness training and advocacy;" and

WHEREAS: A large percentage of construction jobs in the Metro Boston area are based here in Cambridge, it is imperative that we provide pathways for our residents to access these workforce opportunities and construction careers; and

WHEREAS: An “Intro to Construction Jobs” training program is currently being designed at the [MIT Job Connector](#) in full partnership with MIT and the [Boston Building Trades](#), which will be a 5-6 week paid program to introduce residents to construction careers with members of the building trades, as well as offering soft skills such as assistance with Building Pathways applications, resume writing, interview skills and individualized support for each participant; and

WHEREAS: The first ever Cambridge based Building Pathways class was launched in 2019, and although the COVID19 pandemic temporarily halted this important workforce development training program, the MIT Job Connector is excited to bring this critical workforce program back to Cambridge in February of 2022; and

WHEREAS: This program is being designed as a way to recruit interested and qualified members to the next Building Pathways session in February of 2022, and we expect it will positively interface with the successful Cambridge based Building Pathways program; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record reaffirming our expectation that the February 2022 Building Pathways session will occur in Cambridge at the MIT Job Connector; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in its expectation that Cambridge residents will be prioritized for participation in the February 2022 session, and that a robust recruitment process will be implemented by the Boston Building Trades; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Boston Building Trades, including the Building Pathways leadership team, on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-3 Oct 18, 2021

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has always served as a home for immigrants and refugees; and

WHEREAS: The number of refugees seeking asylum has grown dramatically in recent years, and as the climate crisis worsens this number will only increase; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is a Welcoming City ([ordained](#) in 2020) that will embrace and support refugee families in any capacity that it is capable of; and

WHEREAS: It was recently learned that Cambridge will be receiving at least two Afghan refugee families, and last month over 10,000 Haitian migrants attempted to seek asylum at the southern border; and

WHEREAS: There is no central clearinghouse or process for resettling refugees and refugee families in Cambridge, and little cohesion between the federal and state government and regional organizations that work to aid with the resettlement process in cities such as Cambridge; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Commission on Immigrant Rights and Citizenship and other relevant City staff to determine the feasibility of creating a uniform process for aiding the resettlement of refugees in Cambridge; and be it further

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

O-4 Oct 18, 2021

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: Lesley University recently announced [a new campus plan](#) that includes the University’s intention to sell its underutilized properties; and

WHEREAS: The City Council has expressed desire for the City to purchase property for a range of priorities from Pre-K to green space to housing; and

WHEREAS: The properties that Lesley University has announced it will be selling could help address these much-needed priorities; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to determine the feasibility of purchasing property from Lesley University to address City goals; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the feasibility in a timely manner as Lesley University moves forward with their campus plans.

O-5 Oct 18, 2021

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: Cricket is one of the most popular sports in the world with a concentration of popularity in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge and the entire region is home to a [large population](#) of immigrants from countries where cricket is most popular, some of whom have been helping [grow the popularity](#) of the sport in the area; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is a diverse and welcoming city that embraces cultures from around the globe, and having a cricket pitch in the city would give everyone in Cambridge an opportunity to learn and experience one of the oldest sports in the world; and

WHEREAS: Danehy Park, or one of the other open spaces in Cambridge, could be a potential site for a cricket pitch, which could share a space with a baseball or soccer field; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant City departments to place a cricket field in one of the Cambridge parks; and be it further

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

O-6 Oct 18, 2021

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: On June 28, 2021, the City Council appropriated \$65,019,211, received from the U.S. Department of Treasury through the new Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) established by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), to the Grant Fund Finance Department Other Ordinary Maintenance account; and

WHEREAS: On July 27, 2021, the Finance Committee held a hearing to discuss this appropriation; the conversation was centered around a plan to engage the community to determine the most appropriate places to allocate funds; and

WHEREAS: ARPA was one of the largest stimulus bills ever, and with cities and towns receiving large amounts of discretionary

funds to be spent by 2024, residents have a right to know and decide where those funds are being allocated; and
WHEREAS: The City of Boston established an Equitable Recovery Coordinating Committee to help determine the allocation of ARPA dollars, made up of stakeholders from across City government to “ensure equitable, transparent, and accountable distribution of these funds for economic and social recovery”; and
WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge must center equity in the distribution of over \$65 million in ARPA funds over the next four years; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint a task force that will hold regular public meetings to solicit ideas and feedback from residents on the distribution of ARPA funds; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with relevant staff to develop a website where information regarding ARPA funds is easily accessible to residents, including information about how to give input on the distribution of the funds; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council in a timely manner.

O-7 Oct 18, 2021

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: Thom Doyle resided in Cambridge for 22 years with his wife, Summer, and their children River and Lila; and
WHEREAS: Thom was a dedicated Cambridge Youth Soccer coach to both boys and girls in the intown soccer programs; and
WHEREAS: Thom was a deeply caring coach who loved to see his players improve as both athletes and people, and who brought a calm and supportive presence on and off the field that had a positive influence on not only his players, but everyone involved in Cambridge Youth Soccer; and
WHEREAS: For 5 years, Thom practiced at Pacific Field in Cambridgeport, where he spent hundreds of hours mentoring, coaching and supporting Cambridge youth by teaching them passion and sportsmanship; and
WHEREAS: On June 7, 2021, Thom passed away unexpectedly from injuries resulting from a fall he experienced while climbing; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate City departments to place a plaque in honor of Thom Doyle at Pacific Field to honor his commitment to our children and his volunteer efforts on their behalf.

O-8 Oct 18, 2021

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge engages in numerous construction projects throughout the city; and
WHEREAS: Neighbors, residents and visitors often have questions regarding these projects; and
WHEREAS: The city places information regarding these projects on the city website, which although helpful, is not always easy to navigate; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate City departments to start placing QR codes on signage around these projects so that interested parties can quickly and easily access information regarding these projects to promote information sharing and transparency.

O-9 Oct 18, 2021

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is committed to reducing the adverse impacts of truck noise and vibrations on residents; and

WHEREAS: Residents of Alewife Brook Parkway (State Route 16) have been complaining about the high volume of box trucks and 18-wheelers and the severe noise and vibration impacts this is having on their health and homes; and

WHEREAS: According to the City’s [Truck Restrictions map](#), trucks are banned on Alewife Brook Parkway (State Route 16) from Massachusetts Avenue to the Somerville line; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate staff of both the City and State to confirm if the Truck Restriction map is up to date, who should be enforcing the ban, and what actions can be taken moving forward; and be it further

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

O-10 Oct 18, 2021

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

VICE MAYOR MALLON

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: Huron Avenue is a busy street that sees significant vehicular thru-traffic and abuts residential neighborhoods and Fresh Pond, which is one of the city’s largest recreational areas; and

WHEREAS: Huron Avenue also has significant pedestrian traffic along its length, including near Fresh Pond and the Strawberry Hill neighborhood; and

WHEREAS: The intersection of Huron Avenue and Grove Street contains multiple lanes of traffic turning across a pedestrian walkway; and

WHEREAS: The intersection does not currently have a traffic signal, pedestrian crossing signal, or other traffic calming features, and as daylight gets shorter, visibility at this intersection becomes more challenging; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department and the City of Belmont about what improvements may be made to this intersection and adjoining sidewalks.

O-11 Oct 18, 2021

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that Eversource is testing networked geothermal systems for heating and cooling potential, which has the potential to replace delivered fuels and natural gas services; and

WHEREAS: Building emissions are responsible for around 80 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Replacing fossil fuel sources with geothermal technology to heat and cool buildings can reduce the carbon emissions by an average of 60 percent; and

WHEREAS: Most residences in Cambridge use natural gas or other fossil fuel sources to heat and cool their homes; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge has been a leader in setting aggressive climate goals, specifically in reducing emissions, and has had trouble meeting those goals; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge’s participation in the geothermal pilot program would significantly advance progress toward the City’s climate goals while providing an ideal location for Eversource to pilot the program; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge plans to reconstruct many streets and locations in Cambridge and wishes to minimize street

disruption and cost through performing synergistic upgrades of many utilities at the same time; and

WHEREAS: The streets selected as potential sites include diverse energy use, low-income residents and infrastructure work, including a MWRA water main and electric duct bank – this work could reduce Eversource’s costs since the street would already be open; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council strongly supports efforts and innovations to reduce Cambridge’s overall carbon footprint, while also improving the economic, social and physical well-being of our community members; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record expressing enthusiastic support for the proposed site location as a location for Eversource’s Geothermal Pilot Program project; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the Cambridge state delegation asking them to support the request for Cambridge to be a site; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the supervisors of the Eversource Geothermal Pilot Program on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-12 Oct 18, 2021
COUNCILLOR NOLAN
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: Uplift the Solar Energy Industry in Massachusetts Coalition has a proposal responding to the Economic Development Administration’s Build Back Better Regional Challenge. The coalition, led by the American Sustainable Business Institute (ASBI), Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts (SBN), American Independent Business Alliance (AMIBA), and Council Fire, represents a critical step to accelerate the wide-scale adoption of solar energy in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS: The coalition has committed to simultaneously addressing the increasingly dire climate crisis while advancing economic development goals around business expansion and job creation, workforce development and re-skilling, economic resiliency, and empowering historically marginalized communities in Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS: There is potential for Uplift the Solar Energy Industry in Massachusetts to raise public awareness regarding the urgency of the moment and wide-ranging economic benefits of solar to individuals, businesses, and communities at large by working with stakeholders to identify and coordinate the allocation of resources toward the time-sensitive goal of advancing solar adoption at scale; and

WHEREAS: Our goals as a city and a commonwealth are to be leaders in the clean energy space and one part of that goal is the expansion of solar; and

WHEREAS: Governor Baker recently clarified his renewable energy objectives and set a goal requiring 50% of Massachusetts’ energy be derived from renewable sources, which will require a massive investment of resources to educate communities about the promise of solar and build out the necessary solar infrastructure; and

WHEREAS: There is a growing recognition and consensus regarding the need for immediate action towards renewable energy, in addition to a need for economic opportunities which yield a more diverse, equitable and inclusive economy for a diverse workforce, both of which expansion of solar can provide; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant City departments to support the Uplift the Solar Energy Industry in Massachusetts Coalition; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter as soon as possible, considering the timeliness of the proposal.

O-13 Oct 18, 2021
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the Joint Committee on Housing recently held a hearing on H.1426/S.890, the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA), a policy that the City Council [has previously](#) supported; and

WHEREAS: TOPA would give cities and towns the local option of providing tenants in multifamily buildings the right to match a third-party offer when their homes are sold, including through partnering with an affordable housing purchaser or by designating their rights to a non-profit or local housing authority; and

WHEREAS: H.1426/S.890 is based on similar legislation from around the country, including a Washington DC ordinance enacted in 1980 which [has helped](#) to permanently preserve the affordability of thousands of homes at just a fraction of the cost of constructing new affordable units; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge has desperately needed tools to protect renters from displacement ever since a small group of landlords led a successful effort to ban rent control statewide in 1994 via ballot referendum, despite the policy’s immense local popularity, effectively handcuffing the council’s ability to regulate the landlord-tenant relationship in any way; and

WHEREAS: Housing stabilization is a public health issue, and displacement and unaffordable rents disproportionately impact people of color, seniors, people with disabilities, unhoused people, LGBTQ+ people, and other vulnerable groups; and

WHEREAS: The pandemic is causing increasing distress in the housing market and is expected to result in more turmoil, speculative purchases and resident displacement; and

WHEREAS: This policy was advanced by both chambers of the legislature in the previous session as part of the Economic Development omnibus bill, only to be vetoed by Governor Baker after the close of the session; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in reaffirming strong support for H.1426/S.890, the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record urging the Joint Committee on Housing to advance the bill out of committee as soon as possible, and in urging the Legislature to put this bill back on the Governor’s desk as soon as possible; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this resolution to Cambridge’s Legislative Delegation, the chairs of the Joint Committee on Housing, and Governor Charles Baker on behalf of the entire City Council.