

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$745,000 from Free Cash to the Public Investment Fund, Emergency Communications Extraordinary Expense account which will be used for site maintenance and the replacement of critical infrastructure to support the City of Cambridge radio system.
2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the reappointment of the following persons as members of the Conservation Commission: Kathryn Hess, David Lyons and Elysse Magnotto-Cleary.
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$180,500 from Free Cash to the General Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account to support the expansion of Equity Roadmap's Friday Night Hype program in Cambridge. This appropriation also responds to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-54.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. A communication was received from the community, regarding Carl Barron Plaza reconstruction. [CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN IN COUNCIL OCT 18, 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]

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Young Kim, regarding Re Porter square every one of us needs to dial it back.
2. A communication was received from Young Kim, regarding Delay Implementation until feedback from 2nd community meeting is incorporated.
3. A communication was received from Young Kim, regarding Porter square Delay Implementation until feedback from 2nd community meeting is incorporated.
4. A communication was received from Roger May, regarding planned redesign Mass Ave.

5. A communication was received from Rochelle Zapol, regarding Objections to Plans to Expand the Bike Lane on Mass Ave Dudley Street to Alewife Brook Parkway.
6. A communication was received from Jeff Borrelli, regarding Mass Ave - Dudley St to Alewife Brook Pkwy.
7. A communication was received from Robert J. La Tremouille, regarding Massive Environmental Destruction_10.25.2021.
8. A communication was received from Linda Moussouris, regarding Porter Square Delay Implementation until feedback from 2nd community meeting is incorporated.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Myron Levine. Councillor Simmons
2. Resolution on the death of Gerald G. "Tubba" Gomes, Sr. Councillor Toomey
3. Resolution on the death of Jeannie "Jennie" Mammola. Councillor Toomey
4. Congratulations to Brian Corr. Councillor Simmons
5. Congratulations to the Margaret Fuller House Honorees. Councillor Simmons
6. Thank You Ms. Merline Sylvain-Williams For 17 Years Of Service. Vice Mayor Mallon
7. Congratulating Sofra Bakery. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon
8. Thank You to Sandy Gould and Jason Targoff for Dedication to Cambridge Youth Soccer. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to confer with relative City departments on ways to report pedestrian and cyclist accidents in real time to residents. Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
2. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Director of the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department that in addition to stricter parking enforcement in this area, a viable long-term strategy must be developed to mitigate the issues created by the removal of the metered parking spaces along Massachusetts Avenue near Banks Street to ensure that those providing home-based services to seniors in this neighborhood are fully able to do so. Councillor Simmons
3. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the City Solicitor and the appropriate staff to review the language of this proposed ordinance amendment and to report back to the City Council in advance of the next City Council meeting. Councillor Nolan, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Carlone, Councillor Zondervan
4. Public Hearing on Carl Baron Plaza Redesign. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Carlone
5. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Community Development Department, the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department, and any other

appropriate City department to discuss implementation of a plan which charges EV customers for electricity and not parking at municipal EV charging locations. Councillor Nolan, Vice Mayor Mallon, Mayor Siddiqui

6. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with DCR on the possibility of again extending closures until at least the final Sunday in December 2021, if not longer, weather permitting. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Mayor Siddiqui
7. Debt-Free Public Higher Education. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui
8. That the City Council go on record in support of implementing key safety improvements on the Harvard Bridge, including flex post-protected bike lanes by the end of the year and bus lanes as soon as can be feasibly coordinated with the MBTA. Councillor Zondervan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor McGovern

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The Ordinance committee met on Sept 21, 2021 to continue a hearing on an amendment to Article 22 of the City of Cambridge Zoning Ordinance "Emissions Accounting" (Ord # 2021-13).

Proposed Order Oct 25, 2021

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: The Ordinance Committee held a meeting on Sept 21, 2021 to discuss an amendment to Article 22 of the City of Cambridge Zoning Ordinance "Emissions Accounting" (Ord # 2021-13).

WHEREAS: The committee voted to send the following order to the full city council; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the law department to draft a memorandum describing what activities in the "Emissions Accounting" petition that can be regulated through zoning and the best way to implement the remaining components, as well as how a jobs linkage fee, higher than \$2, could be assessed.

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting Information on Broadband Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon
2. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting information from the School Committee.

HEARING SCHEDULE

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. (REMOTE HEARING)

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 25, 2021

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

WHEREAS: Pedestrian and cycling accidents are an ongoing issue throughout the City; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge makes [some crash data available on its open data portal](#) but it can be hard to navigate or understand the impacts on the residents and others who are involved without some explanation; and

WHEREAS: City officials and City Councillors are informed in real time via email when such traffic accidents occur, but because residents are not informed these incidents are largely invisible; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relative City departments on ways to report these accidents, in real time using a public method of reporting; 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-2 Oct 25, 2021

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: It has come to the City Council's attention that the recent removal of metered parking spaces near the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Banks Street has created significant difficulties for home health aides and other service providers to access the housebound seniors living in that neighborhood who rely upon them; and

WHEREAS: This concern had been recently communicated to the Director of the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department and this led to stricter parking enforcement in the area, which appeared to ease the problem for a brief period, but seniors in this neighborhood report that the problem persists, with home health aides regularly unable to find parking near their clients and ultimately canceling their appointments; and

WHEREAS: It has become clear that stricter parking enforcement alone will not solve this problem, and that a more thoughtful, creative solution is required of the City to ensure that housebound seniors living in this neighborhood can continue to be easily accessed by their home health aides and other visitors; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Director of the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department that in addition to stricter parking enforcement in this area, a viable long-term strategy must be developed to mitigate the

issues created by the removal of the metered parking spaces along Massachusetts Avenue near Banks Street to ensure that those providing home-based services to seniors in this neighborhood are fully able to do so; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back on this matter to the City Council no later than December 1, 2021.

O-3 Oct 25, 2021

COUNCILLOR NOLAN
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: As a leader in climate progress, Cambridge has ambitious climate goals in terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS: Around 20% of Cambridge's emissions comes from transportation; and

WHEREAS: On June 13, 2016, the City Council passed a [policy order](#) requesting that the City Manager "confer with the appropriate City departments to determine the feasibility of requiring gas pump labels with information about the environmental impact of burning fossil fuels at all gas stations in the City"; and

WHEREAS: The Council Order states "Requiring these labels at the gas pump will provide consumers with information about the impact of fossil fuel consumption, which may encourage them to use alternative forms of transportation when appropriate"; and

WHEREAS: The city solicitor provided a [legal opinion](#) that requiring labels was feasible and provided guidance on how labels could be created; and

WHEREAS: A [subsequent order](#) including an ordinance amendment to article 8.12.010 of the Municipal Code was ordained on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS: Article 8.12.010 of the Municipal Code only regulates self-serve gasoline stations, excluding full-service stations; and

WHEREAS: The Council intended to include all gasoline pumps in the original policy order, not limited to self-service pumps; and

WHEREAS: The presence of labels on all gas pumps, including at full-service pumps, will allow further public education, for the workers at the stations and the customers in their cars; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the proposed amendment to article 8.12 of the Municipal Code (as attached) be adopted by the council 2021; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the City Solicitor and the appropriate staff to review the language of this proposed ordinance amendment and to report back to the City Council in advance of the next City Council meeting.

Ordinance Amendment

Chapter 8.12 - GASOLINE SERVICE STATIONS

8.12.010 - Self-service station regulations.

A. The dispensing of motor fuel by means of self-service automated dispensing systems shall be permitted at any authorized gasoline station. All installations shall comply with the regulations promulgated by the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations in the Commonwealth.

~~B. Each self-service automated dispensing system shall display a clear warning label explaining that burning gasoline, diesel and ethanol has major consequences on human health and on the environment, including contributing to climate change. The text, image, or graphics of this warning label shall be approved by the City Manager.~~

8.12.020 - Mobile On-Demand Fueling Service. [Section UNCHANGED]

8.12.030 - Gasoline station regulations. [New Section]

Each gasoline dispensing system shall display a clear warning label explaining that burning gasoline, diesel and ethanol has major consequences on human health and on the environment, including contributing to climate change. The text, image, or graphics of this warning label shall be approved by the City Manager.

O-4 Oct 25, 2021

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN
COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER
COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: At the October 18, 2021 meeting the City Council received a [petition](#) from 37 community members who use Carl Barron Plaza on a daily basis, including both housed and unhoused people; and

WHEREAS: The petitioners express frustration that their "input, ideas, and vision" for the plaza have not been sought up to this point; and

WHEREAS: The petitioners assert that the current design options are hostile to them, including by replacing permanent seating options with temporary furniture as a potential means of controlling who may take refuge in the park and what time of day they may do so; and

WHEREAS: The petitioners make a number of constructive suggestions for the redesign, including (but not limited to) the addition of Narcan boxes, sharps containers, and electrical outlets, repairing the sidewalk, and protecting the existing mature trees; and

WHEREAS: Some of the suggestions included in the petition may already be completely or partially included in the redesign proposal, further underscoring the need for better communication and collaboration with these important stakeholders; and

WHEREAS: The ideas contained within this petition would enhance the plaza redesign, and the stated request for a community meeting is entirely reasonable and within precedent; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Health & Environment Committee and the Human Services & Veterans Committee will schedule a joint hearing on the redesign of Carl Barron Plaza with a special focus on the needs of the unhoused community and the ideas presented within Communication #10 from the October 18, 2021 regular meeting; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate City Departments on implementing the suggestions in the petition and report on this matter at the committee hearing.

O-5 Oct 25, 2021

COUNCILLOR NOLAN
VICE MAYOR MALLON
MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: It behooves the City of Cambridge to promote the use of electric vehicles (EV) as an environmentally friendly mode of transportation to meet the City's aggressive emission reduction goals; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge owns a total of 14 publicly available EV charging stations in parking lots, though several of these stations have limited access in terms of the amount of time they are available; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge charges the customer for both parking at the charging station as well as the electricity used while charging their vehicle; and

WHEREAS: The Cities of Somerville and Brookline charge for parking in their municipal lots but do not charge for the electricity at charging ports, while the City of Boston allows free parking for EV charging customers; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is lagging behind its neighbors in terms of increasing accessibility and equity for EV owners and incentivizing others to purchase or otherwise use electric vehicles; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Community Development Department, the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department, and any other appropriate City department to discuss implementation of a plan which charges EV customers for electricity and not parking at municipal EV charging locations.

O-6 Oct 25, 2021

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: State law [requires](#) DCR to open Riverbend Park by closing a portion of Memorial Drive to vehicular traffic on Sundays from April through the second Sunday in November; and

WHEREAS: In 2020, DCR [implemented](#) Saturday closures and extended the season through December 27, including a complete shutdown from December 24 at 10am through December 28 at 7am; and

WHEREAS: These expansions were by all accounts an overwhelming success; and

WHEREAS: The pandemic remains a public health emergency and residents benefit immensely from the safe outdoor recreation space offered by Riverbend Park, especially during the colder months when the options for spending time outdoors dwindle; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with DCR on the possibility of again extending closures until at least the final Sunday in December 2021, if not longer, weather permitting; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to offer up city resources for the purposes of implementing these closures to the extent that DCR continues to have resource constraints that render them infeasible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter no later than Monday, November 8, 2021, which is the final regular meeting before the date that Riverbend Park is currently scheduled to close for the season.

O-7 Oct 25, 2021

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that the Joint Committee on Higher Education is considering H.1339/S.829, [An Act to Guarantee Debt-Free Public Higher Education](#); and

WHEREAS: H.1339/S.829 would address the twin crises of college unaffordability and student loan debt by guaranteeing tuition-and-fees free public college to all Massachusetts residents while offering additional cost-of-living grant money to low-income families to cover the cost of housing, transportation, and child care; and

WHEREAS: Historic barriers to wealth creation and retention drive families of color into debt-reliance for higher education at disproportionate rates, and nationally nearly [two-thirds](#) of Black borrowers owe more than they originally borrowed 12 years after beginning school; and

WHEREAS: In 2017, the average cost of attendance at public colleges in Massachusetts [accounted for](#) a much larger portion of Black and Latinx household income (38% and 43%, respectively) compared to white household income (21%); and

WHEREAS: Women hold nearly two-thirds of the country's student loan debt, which totals \$1.7 trillion dollars, and women are often forced to pay back their student loans at a slower rate than men due to the gender pay gap, which can result in women paying more than men overall for their right to learn; and

WHEREAS: Since FY01, per-student spending on public higher education has been [cut by](#) 32% and state scholarship spending has also been [cut by](#) 32%, increasing the burden on students and their families who now pay more than 50% of total public college revenue across the Commonwealth's community colleges, state universities, and UMass campuses; and

WHEREAS: As state spending on public higher education has declined, public colleges and universities have turned to private financing, and tuition and fees [more than doubled](#) at these institutions between 2001 and 2016; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in enthusiastic support of H.1339/S.829, An Act to Guarantee Debt-Free Public Higher Education, and in urging the Joint Committee on Higher Education to advance the bill as quickly 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 Statehouse Delegation and the Chairs of the Joint Committee on Higher Education on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-8 Oct 25, 2021

COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: The City Council has adopted goals including "Goal 6: Make it easy to move safely through the City, especially by sustainable modes of transportation."

WHEREAS: The Harvard Bridge is an important regional connection between Cambridge and Boston for people who walk, bike, use transit, and drive; and

WHEREAS: Vehicles travel at excessive speeds, particularly upon entering Cambridge, and make turns onto Memorial Drive that endanger pedestrians and people who bike; and

WHEREAS: The #1 bus is identified by the MBTA as one of their 15 key bus routes due to its high ridership, reflecting its importance in transit connectivity, but the route also currently experiences some of the highest delays in the MBTA system as well; and

WHEREAS: There are already bus and protected bike lanes implemented on the Cambridge side and a protected bike lane implemented on the Boston side of the Harvard bridge, making the Harvard bridge a gap in this network that, if filled, could extend all the way from downtown Boston to the Red Line terminus at Alewife; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record in support of implementing key safety improvements on the Harvard Bridge, including flex post-protected bike lanes by the end of the year and bus lanes as soon as can be feasibly coordinated with the MBTA; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with MassDOT on the possibility of making these changes, and report back to the City Council on this matter as soon as possible; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward suitably engrossed copies of this resolution to Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT secretary Jamey Tesler, as well as all members of Cambridge's State Legislative Delegation and Governor Baker.