

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to new appointments and reappointments of members of the Council on Aging Board, effective Nov 8, 2021.
2. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appointment of new members of the Biosafety Committee for a term of 5 years, effective Nov 8, 2021.
3. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-40, regarding the possibility of posting truck exclusion on Roberts Road.
4. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 21-84 regarding BEUDO (Building Energy Use Disclosure Ordinance) proposed amendments. [[CDD Memo](#)] [[current draft](#)] [[City Solicitor opinion](#)]

CHARTER RIGHT

1. An application was received from MIT Visual Arts Center requesting permission for a temporary banner across Ames Street, and Broadway 26 lights poles announcing Welcome back/Now Open, Contemporary Art Museum at MIT, MIT List Visual Arts Center from October 2021 until February 2022. [Charter Right - Zondervan In Council Nov 1, 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. [Tabled 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 – McGovern In Council June 28, 2021; Tabled 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. [Tabled (Siddiqui) Sept 13, 2021]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Ordinance #2021-24 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. [Passed to a Second Reading Oct 25, 2021; To Be Ordained on or after Nov 8, 2021]

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Jason Parillo, representing One Medical requesting permission for one (1) projecting blade sign and four (4) awnings at the premises numbered 822 Somerville Avenue approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public

Works, Community Development Department and abutter's return receipts are included.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from Gerardo Carcamo, Evelyn Aviles, and Juliet Simpson, regarding comments on DHSP Community Schools Report.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution on the death of Elaine S. (Daveta) Nathan. Councillor Toomey
2. Resolution on the death of Henriqueta Pires Fernandes (Piguinha). Councillor Toomey
3. That the City Council go on record urging all residents to honor the people who have defended our country, as well as those who are serving today, by commemorating Veterans Day on Thurs, Nov 11, 2021. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Simmons, Councillor Toomey, Councillor McGovern

ORDERS

1. That the City Council go on record requesting that the forthcoming new Universal Design Playground located in Danehy Park be named the Louis A. DePasquale Universal Design Playground. Councillor Simmons, Councillor Carlone, Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui
2. That the City Manager is requested to work with the appropriate City departments, as well as the Commission of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Education Parents Advisory Council, to develop a plan to install fully accessible equipment in every playground throughout the city. Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Nolan
3. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant departments and housing agencies to ensure all seniors have access to scam prevention materials and training. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Simmons
4. That Article 20.90- Alewife Overlay Districts 1-6 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance be amended to insert a new section entitled Section 20.94.3- Temporarily prohibited uses. Councillor Nolan, Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui
5. Upper Mass. Ave. Bike Lane Improvements. Councillor Nolan

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The **Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts & Celebrations Committee** met on June 2, 2021 to conduct a public hearing to discuss the Alewife Envision Plan.
2. The **Human Services Committee** met on June 30, 2021 to conduct a public hearing to discuss after school programming for the fall.
3. The **Neighborhood and Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts & Celebrations Committee** and the **Housing Committee** met on Aug 24, 2021 to conduct a joint follow-up hearing to continue the discussion on the elimination of single and two-family only zoning and

restrictions on the type of housing that can be built city-wide.

4. The **Ordinance Committee** met on Oct 20, 2021 to conduct a hearing on an ordinance amendment to reduce or limit campaign donations.
- A. Motion to Accept amendments as recommended by the Ordinance Committee
- B. That the City Council adopt a municipal ordinance to reduce or limit campaign donations from donors seeking to enter into a contract, seeking approval for a special permit or upzoning, seeking to acquire real estate from the city, or seeking financial assistance from the city; Ordinance #2020-27. Councillor Carlone, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Zondervan
- C. That the attached Home Petition titled “Petition For An Act Authorizing The City Of Cambridge To Enact An Ordinance To Limit And Monitor Campaign Donations In Local Elections By Individuals Seeking Financial Reward From The City Of Cambridge” be forwarded to the General Court for adoption. Councillor Carlone

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Nov 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Nov 10

2:00pm The Housing Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss the Sept 20, 2021 Policy Order that seeks to amend the Zoning Ordinance via potentially raising the linkage fee. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Nov 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Nov 16

2:00pm The Ordinance Committee will meet to conduct a public hearing on the Advancing Housing Affordability (AHA) Zoning Petition by Francis Donovan, et al (Ordinance #2021-17) (Zoom)

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)

Wed, Dec 8

10:00am The Health & Environment Committee and the Human Services & Veterans Committee will meet to discuss 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 Oct 18, 2021 regular meeting. (Zoom)

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 Nov 8, 2021

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: On Saturday, Nov 13, 2021, the City plans to open a brand new, 20,000 square foot [Universal Design Playground](#) located in Danehy Park; and

WHEREAS: Efforts to design the new Universal Design Playground began in November 2018 with [City Manager Louis A. DePasquale announcing an initial allocation of \\$500,000 for the venture](#), followed by the appointment of a focus group and [community meetings](#) where the design proposals were shared with the public; and

WHEREAS: [Universal Design playgrounds](#), also known as inclusive playgrounds, are “...[sensory-rich environment\[s\] that enable children to develop physically, socially and emotionally](#),” and the new playground in Cambridge has been inspired by similar playgrounds, such as [the one located in Charlestown named after the late Boston Mayor Thomas Menino](#); and

WHEREAS: The City has now invested \$5.8 million to transform what was previously an underutilized grassy area in Danehy Park into a place where all children, including those in wheelchairs, can come from across our City to play, to enjoy the fresh air and each other’s company, and to experience the very best that Cambridge has to offer; and

WHEREAS: City Manager Louis A. DePasquale has been committed to bringing this new Universal Design Playground to fruition, and to ensuring community involvement and engagement throughout the process; and

WHEREAS: The Universal Playground is being officially opened mere months before Mr. DePasquale is scheduled to conclude his term as City Manager, [capping off an over 45-year career with the City](#); now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record requesting that the forthcoming new Universal Design Playground located in Danehy Park be named the Louis A. DePasquale Universal Design Playground.

O-2 Nov 8, 2021

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

VICE MAYOR MALLON

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

WHEREAS: Cambridge is in the process of constructing a universal playground at Danehy Park; and

WHEREAS: This playground will provide accessible equipment and space for children with sensory and physical challenges; and

WHEREAS: This playground will be a tremendous asset to all children, those with sensory and physical challenges and those without; and

WHEREAS: This playground, as great as it will be, is only in one location in the city; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is home to dozens of playgrounds throughout the city, many of which do not have accessible equipment; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the appropriate City departments, as well as the Commission of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Education Parents Advisory Council, to develop a plan to install fully accessible equipment in every playground throughout the city; and be it further

ORDERED: That as playgrounds are being renovated or newly built, the needs of children with sensory and physical challenges be taken into consideration in the design of these playgrounds so that every child has the opportunity to enjoy these play spaces.

O-3 Nov 8, 2021

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: Americans lost nearly [\\$30 billion](#) to phone scams last year and the number of scam attempts is steadily increasing; and

WHEREAS: Many seniors in Cambridge have been the victim of successful scam calls and have expressed concern about the number of calls increasing; and

WHEREAS: Theft from seniors in this form is preventable if the proper training and resources are provided; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with relevant departments and housing agencies to ensure all seniors have access to scam prevention materials and training; and be it further

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

O-4 Nov 8, 2021

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: In 1979, the City of Cambridge Community Development Department created the Alewife Revitalization plan, intended to fill the Fresh Pond - Alewife area with a mix of residential, business, and industrial structures (as shown in the attached graphic); and

WHEREAS: Forty years later, the 2019 Envision Alewife plan still visualizes Alewife as a mixed-use district, with development promoting the creation of good-paying, low barrier-to-entry jobs, and additional housing with no lab uses (as shown in the attached graphic); and

WHEREAS: Over two years the City Council debated an upzoning petition for part of the Quad area that included some housing, some retail, and some office/lab space which was voted down out of concerns that it was not aligned fully

with the areawide vision as articulated in the plans, and a commitment to connections was uncertain; and

WHEREAS: The climate resiliency issues in this district are important, and this area is the subject of discussions by various departments, committees and task forces, with increasing urgency due to the rapid changes in climate leading to a need for more urgent and aggressive actions in this flood prone area with the visions consistently showing the need for a pond or water retention system/green corridor; and

WHEREAS: In the past two months, Denver real estate investment firm Healthpeak Properties has spent close to \$400 million in this part of Cambridge, purchasing to date 19 separate parcels as outlined in the attached chart; and

WHEREAS: All of these purchases are located in the Alewife "Quad" area, where Cambridge has planned a variety of different developments. Future purchases from HealthPeak Properties are expected since an additional LLC, LS Alewife IV, was created and has not yet acquired property, while LS Alewife V has; and

WHEREAS: HealthPeak is known for owning and developing real estate mostly in the healthcare industry, including medical offices and labs; and

WHEREAS: The original plan for Alewife included some office space and labs, though expected a wide variety of development; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge continues to struggle with housing affordability and availability, and therefore housing must be an integral part of all future development; and

WHEREAS: Long-needed public infrastructure, including pedestrian and bicycle connections through and across the district, a rail stop for those commuting to and from the area, publicly accessible open spaces, and urgent municipal needs such as DPW and Fire Department facilities, remains lacking; and

WHEREAS: City staff has not produced new zoning for the district in line with the plans, including the recent Alewife Envision Plan; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That Article 20.90- Alewife Overlay Districts 1-6 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance be amended to insert a new section entitled Section 20.94.3- Temporarily prohibited uses to read as follows:

"No Office or Laboratory Uses as listed in Table 4.34- Office and Laboratory Use shall be permitted within Alewife Overlay Districts 1-6 until December 31, 2023, or until such time as new Alewife District zoning is ordained by the Cambridge City Council, whichever shall be sooner. Such new district zoning shall be created in consultation with neighborhood residents from throughout the Alewife District and from each bordering district, including Cambridge Highlands, North Cambridge, Neighborhood Nine, and West Cambridge.

Specifically, such new district zoning shall be guided by the vision, goals, existing studies, and recommendations contained in the City publications Alewife District Plan:

A report of the Alewife Planning Study Fall 2019 and Alewife Design Guidelines Fall 2020, and shall address the following areas identified in those reports:

- Land Use
- Open Space
- Urban Form
- Mobility
- Climate and Environment
- Housing
- Economy

In addition, such new district zoning shall also reflect any recent reports and planning recommendations developed by other relevant citizen committees, task forces, and working groups, including but not limited to the following:

- Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Advisory Committees (City of Cambridge Bike Plan 2020, City of Cambridge Pedestrian Plan)
- Climate Protection Action Committee (City of Cambridge Climate Protection Plan)
- Net Zero Task Force (City of Cambridge Net Zero Action Plan)
- Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force (City of Cambridge Urban Forest Report: Healthy Forest Healthy City)
- Climate Change Working Group (final report pending)
- Climate Resilience Zoning Task Force (final report pending)”

Name/Corporation	Total Cost of Acquisitions	Date of Last Acquisition
LS Alewife I LLC	\$180 million	9/9/2021
LS Alewife II LLC	\$73 million	10/4/2021
LS Alewife III LLC	\$120 million	10/27/2021
LS Alewife IV LLC	\$0 to date	N/A
LS Alewife V LLC	\$17.8 million	11/1/2021

O-5 Nov 8, 2021

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

WHEREAS: The bike lane plan on Massachusetts Avenue from Dudley Street to Alewife Brook Parkway is slated to begin construction within the next few weeks; and

WHEREAS: As detailed in Chapter 12.22 of the Cambridge Municipal Code, the Cycling Safety Ordinance, construction on this stretch of Massachusetts Avenue must be completed by no later than May 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS: The construction of protected bike lanes is crucial for cyclist safety and greenhouse gas emission mitigation; and

WHEREAS: Many residents have raised relevant concerns regarding the removal of the approximately 80 parking spots on Massachusetts Avenue; and

WHEREAS: The plan does not designate any handicapped parking spaces on this segment of Massachusetts Avenue since currently there are not designated spots, yet with the reduction of parking residents are concerned no accessible spots will be added; and

WHEREAS: Residents with limited mobility deserve the option to access services and businesses along this stretch of

Massachusetts Avenue, and for some, using a car is the only option; and

WHEREAS: Small businesses have communicated concerns about their long-term viability with the loss of parking; and

WHEREAS: One idea to address these concerns is to use the bus lanes currently proposed for 15-minute loading zones during off peak hours to allow for 2-hour parking, which Boston has implemented on streets, marking bus lanes with time-limited parking, although not on streets with medians; and

WHEREAS: The Fire Department has expressed concerns about using the bus lanes during off-rush hours due to the perceived need for more than one lane in case of fire requiring a ladder utilizing side stabilizers; and

WHEREAS: Most Cambridge streets are narrower than Massachusetts Avenue, and further that section of Massachusetts Avenue has few buildings that appear to require a ladder truck in case of fire, and parked cars can still be moved quickly in case of emergency and eventually the median may be eliminated; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager work with the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department and any other relevant departments to deliver a report on how people with limited mobility can access services on Massachusetts Avenue with the current proposed bike lane plan; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager work with the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department and the Fire Department to report on the number of fires in the last ten years on that section of Mass. Avenue requiring a ladder truck, in order to determine the feasibility of allowing two-hour parking including some handicapped spots in bus lanes during off-rush hours to ease the burden on those who rely on cars for transportation out of necessity; and be it further

ORDERED: That these reports will still allow for implementation of the Cycling Safety ordinance in line with existing timelines.