



City of Cambridge

Executive Department

YI-AN HUANG
City Manager

December 5, 2022

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I am writing to request your approval to submit the attached amendment to the proposed Home Rule Petition for a special act regarding a fire cadet program for the City of Cambridge Fire Department. As background, on February 22, 2021, the City Council approved Council Order No. O-6 confirming that it favored the filing of a Petition for a Special Law Regarding a Fire Cadet Program for the City of Cambridge Fire Department (“Fire Cadet Legislation”). Thereafter, the Petition for the Fire Cadet Legislation was submitted to the Legislature, and on September 20, 2021, then City Manager Louis A. DePasquale appeared before the Council seeking approval of a non-substantive amendment to the Petition, which the Council approved.

Recently, the City has learned that members of the legislative committees who have reviewed this Petition have suggested certain further amendments. Those amendments include the insertion of a new section, numbered as Section 5 on the redlined version of the Petition attached as Attachment No. 1. Section 5 provides that a Fire Cadet does not pay into the pension system, nor is a Fire Cadet entitled to pension benefits, but after the Fire Cadet becomes a permanent, full-time firefighter, they may have the time served as a Fire Cadet count as creditable service if they pay into the pension system for that time. Section 5 is consistent with language that is in the City of Boston’s Fire Cadet special legislation. The other suggested amendment is the addition of the first sentence of Section 6 shown in the redlined version of the Petition attached as Attachment No. 1. That amendment limits the Fire Cadet program to five years. As it is preferable for the City to have the ability to continue the Fire Cadet program for a period longer than 5 years without having to seek further special legislation, we recommend not accepting that suggested amendment.

Accordingly, in the clean version of the Petition, attached as Attachment No. 2, we have incorporated Section 5 as recommended by the Legislature, but fixing the typo referring to Boston instead of Cambridge, and we have removed the added language in Section 6 that was recommended by the Legislature, so that section is as the Council had previously approved.



I am therefore requesting your approval of the Petition as it appears in Attachment No. 2, which incorporates only the new language in Section 5.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yi-An Huang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Yi-An Huang
City Manager

Attachment(s)