

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update on the City's Rodent Control Programs. (CM24#258) [[text of report](#)]
2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointment of Zhonghe Li and Jean Dany Joachim and the re-appointment of David Daniel, Aliyah Gary, Lori Lander, Calvin Lindsay Jr., Ann Lawson, Stella Aguirre McGregor, Michael Monestime, Diane Charyk Norris, Katherine Megumi Shozawa and Christine Lamas Weinberg to the **Cambridge Arts Advisory Board** for a term of three years. (CM24#259)
3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-24, regarding a Porchfest pilot. (CM24#260) [[text of report](#)]
4. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to an update on the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority Affordable Homeownership Commitment. (CM24#261) [[text of report](#)]
5. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$1,117,356 funded by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services and administered by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Salary and Wages account (\$163,078.01), and to the Grant Fund Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$954,277.99). The program assists with heating bills between Nov 1, 2024 – Apr 30, 2025. (CM24#262)
6. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the proposed Bluebike bike share system contract term. (CM24#263)
7. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 24-61, regarding lowering speeds on state highways. (CM24#264) [[text of report](#)]

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department and Harvard University to restore Garden Street to two-way automobile traffic while preserving two-way protected bike lanes, preserving as much parking on and/or near Garden Street as possible and identifying potential areas for resident parking on neighboring streets and communicating the changes to the affected neighborhood. Councillor Toner, Councillor Nolan, Councillor Zusy, Councillor Wilson (PO24#153)
2. That the City Manager is requested to forward a letter to all Cambridge organizations working with immigrant populations, as well as all City Departments, reminding them of the city's Sanctuary/Trust Act City status, the protections provided by the 2020 Welcoming Community Ordinance, and the importance of ensuring non-citizens are treated with dignity and respect. Vice Mayor McGovern, Mayor Simmons, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Siddiqui (PO24#154)

3. Congratulations to SHARE CHA and its members on filing for union certification with the Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations; urging CHA management for a fair process, to recognize their bargaining unit without delay, and to begin good-faith negotiations expeditiously; and supporting the ratification of a just contract that considers the financial stability of the Cambridge Health Alliance and reflects the value of these clinicians and the patients they serve. Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Wilson, Vice Mayor McGovern (PO24#155)

ON THE TABLE

1. That the City Manager is requested to work with relevant City departments and encourage the state Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the MBTA to adhere to Cambridge local ordinances, including the Cambridge Asbestos Protection Ordinance, during Alewife Construction. [Tabled Nov 25, 2024] (PO24#151)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. 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)
3. An Ordinance has been received from City Clerk, relative to Flexible Parking Corridor Zoning Petition. [Adopted as a City Council Zoning Petition and Passed to 2nd Reading Dec 2, 2024; Eligible to be Ordained Dec 23, 2024; Expires Feb 19, 2025] (ORD24#5)
4. An Ordinance has been received from City Clerk, relative to the Parking and Transportation Demand Management (PTDM) Municipal Ordinance. [Referred to Ordinance Committee Oct 21, 2024; Passed to 2nd Reading Dec 2, 2024; Eligible to be Ordained Dec 23, 2024] (ORD24#6)
5. An Ordinance has been received from City Clerk, relative to the Commercial Parking Space Permits Municipal Ordinance. [Passed to 2nd Reading Dec 2, 2024; Eligible to be Ordained Dec 23, 2024] (ORD24#7)
6. An Ordinance has been received from City Clerk, relative to ARTICLE 2.000 DEFINITIONS Dormer. A roofed projection built out from a sloping roof, containing a window or windows. ARTICLE 8.000 NONCONFORMITY 8.22.1h. Construction of a dormer or dormers to a nonconforming one- or two-family dwelling. [Passed to 2nd Reading Nov 4, 2024; Eligible To Be Ordained on or after Nov 25, 2024] (ORD24#9)

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication from Caitlin Dube, regarding Since the change to making Garden Street one-way, I have noticed more traffic in our neighborhood.
2. A communication from Jean G. Krulic, regarding Objection to current proposed citywide upzoning zoning plan.
3. A communication from John Grady, regarding Zoning changes.

4. A communication from Lee Farris, regarding Residents Alliance support for MBTA following Cambridge Asbestos and Tree Ordinances.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to CHA Board Commissioner Gerard J. Clark on his retirement. Mayor Simmons
2. Resolution on the death of Judith “Jay” Wilson. Vice Mayor McGovern
3. Recognition of Cambridge Investment in Renewable Energy. Councillor Nolan, Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler, Councillor Siddiqui
4. Condolences on the death of Barclay Tittmann. Councillor Toner
5. Condolences on the death of Jerry Dean Murphy. Councillor Toner

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Ordinance Committee** - Committee Meeting - Aug 13, 2019, 12:00pm - proposed Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to create an Affordable Housing Overlay district [[text of report](#)]
2. **Ordinance Committee** - Committee Meeting - Aug 14, 2019, 5:30pm - proposed Amendment to the Municipal Code to create a Cannabis Business Permitting Ordinance [[text of report](#)]
3. The **Public Safety Committee** met on Oct 14, 2021 to hear from outside experts on specific details being considered by the HEART team to implement a public safety response. [[text of report](#)]
4. The **Ordinance Committee** met on Nov 16, 2021 to conduct a public hearing on the Advancing Housing Affordability (AHA) Zoning Petition by Francis Donovan, et al (Ordinance #2021-17). [[text of report](#)]
5. The **Public Safety Committee** met on Nov 17, 2021 to hear an update on the City’s implementation of the HEART proposal as part of an alternative public safety response. [[text of report](#)]
6. The **Public Safety Committee** met on Dec 21, 2021 to hear an update on the City’s implementation of the HEART proposal as part of an alternative public safety response. [[text of report](#)]
7. The **Public Safety Committee** met on May 18, 2022 to discuss the City’s implementation of the 988 program with City staff and other subject matter experts Safety. [[text of report](#)]
8. The **Finance Committee** held a public hearing on Nov 20, 2024 to review and discuss the Operating Budget in advance of the FY26 budget season. [[text of report](#)]

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, transmitting an update regarding legislative activity. (COF24#153)
2. A communication from Councillor Siddiqui and Councillor Toner, transmitting an **update on the Special Committee**

on Charter Review. Councillor Siddiqui, Councillor Toner (COF24#154) [[text of report](#)]

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Dec 9

1:00pm City Council **Special Committee of the Whole meeting on City Charter**

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Wed, Dec 11

3:00pm The **Finance Committee** will hold a public hearing for an update and discussion on Public Investment Planning.

Mon, Dec 16

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Tues, Dec 17

12:00pm The **Economic Development and University Relations Committee** will hold a public 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.

Thurs, Dec 19

5:30pm The **Ordinance Committee** will hold a public hearing on two Multifamily Zoning Petitions from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. There will be public comment at this meeting. This is a continuation of the public hearing that was recessed on Nov 19, 2024, that reconvened and recessed again on Dec 4, 2024. Further, two additional meetings are being planned.

Mon, Dec 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting

Mon, Dec 30

5:30pm City Council Meeting

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Dec 9, 2024

COUNCILLOR TONER

COUNCILLOR NOLAN

COUNCILLOR ZUSY

COUNCILLOR WILSON

WHEREAS: Garden Street was reconfigured from a two-way street for automobile traffic to a one-way street in November of 2022; and

WHEREAS: Since this change was made, residents from the neighborhood have continued to experience and express concerns about safety, traffic jams, congestion, and cut through traffic on Linnaean, Concord, Huron and many surrounding side streets; and

WHEREAS: School buses, Harvard delivery trucks, and other large vehicles have been diverted to side streets that had commonly used Garden Street posing some safety hazards; and

WHEREAS: Massachusetts Avenue is currently being scheduled for significant road redesign to install permanent separated bike lanes while preserving parking through reducing the number of traffic lanes which will add to traffic congestion at rush hour; and

WHEREAS: Garden Street is currently being repaved and is scheduled for repainting and installation of further bicycle infrastructure; and

WHEREAS: The Tobin School will be reopened in September of 2025, promising even more traffic in the area; and

WHEREAS: Garden Street can be reopened to two-way automobile traffic while maintaining separated bike lanes; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department and Harvard University to restore Garden Street to two-way automobile traffic while preserving two-way protected bike lanes, preserving as much parking on and/or near Garden Street as possible and identifying potential areas for resident parking on neighboring streets and communicating the changes to the affected neighborhood; and be it further

ORDERED: That the work be completed as soon as possible but no later than Apr 1, 2025.

O-2 Dec 9, 2024

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

MAYOR SIMMONS

COUNCILLOR AZEEM

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge was one of the first cities in the United States to [declare itself a Sanctuary City on April 8, 1985](#), and reaffirmed that commitment in [2006](#), [2016](#) and [2020](#); and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is a city proud of its diversity, immigrant population, and its role as a welcoming community to people from around the world; and

WHEREAS: Non-Citizen residents of Cambridge are integral members of our community, contributing as workers, taxpayers, caregivers, students, and law-abiding neighbors; and

WHEREAS: According to recent U.S. Census data, 28% of Cambridge's population is made-up of foreign-born residents; and

WHEREAS: Non-citizens, in Cambridge and across the nation, have been subjected to heightened threats and discrimination, both verbally and physically due to the divisive rhetoric and policies being promoted by President-Elect Donald Trump; and

WHEREAS: In February 2020, the City of Cambridge further strengthened its commitment to immigrant protections by passing the Welcoming Community Ordinance, which codifies practices already followed by the Cambridge Police Department and other city agencies; and

WHEREAS: The Welcoming Community Ordinance states that Cambridge police officers will not inquire about an individual's immigration status or voluntarily participate in federal immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge has a deep and unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusivity, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of immigration status, can live in peace, safety, and dignity, while and being protected from physical and emotional abuse, intimidation and discrimination; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record reaffirming its commitment to being a Sanctuary City and a welcoming community to immigrants from around the world, and encouraging residents of Cambridge, as well as people across the United States, to treat one another with kindness and respect, and to value the diversity that strengthens both Cambridge and the nation; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to forward a letter to all Cambridge organizations working with immigrant populations, as well as all City Departments, reminding them of the city's Sanctuary/Trust Act City status, the protections provided by the 2020 Welcoming Community Ordinance, and the importance of ensuring noncitizens are treated with dignity and respect; and be it further

ORDERED: That the letter should also include detailed information on available resources for individuals experiencing physical or

emotional abuse, intimidation, or discrimination, and outline the city's ongoing commitment to ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all residents.

O-3 Dec 9, 2024

COUNCILLOR SOBRINHO-WHEELER

COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI

COUNCILLOR WILSON

VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: The City Council recently learned that 230 Cambridge Health Alliance attending physicians, physician associates, and psychologists, signaled their intent to unionize, with over 70% of these healthcare professionals signing union authorization cards; and

WHEREAS: Citing a lack of a voice and participation on the job, top-down management, and challenging working conditions, the clinicians hope to build a constructive and collaborative relationship with CHA leadership through their new union with SHARE CHA to ensure the strength and longevity of this important institution; and

WHEREAS: These CHA clinicians collectively care for over 140,000 patients across the Greater Boston region and want to ensure the continuation of the high-quality care they provide; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record congratulating SHARE CHA and its members on filing for union certification with the Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations; urging CHA management for a fair process, to recognize their bargaining unit without delay, and to begin good-faith negotiations expeditiously; and supporting the ratification of a just contract that considers the financial stability of the Cambridge Health Alliance and reflects the value of these clinicians and the patients they serve; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Cambridge Health Alliance CEO Dr. Assaad Sayah on behalf of the entire City Council.