

## CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a grant from the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency (MassHousing) in the amount of \$3,000 to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used to provide services in relation to hoarding, including training of service providers, funding assistance for clean-ups, establishing and supporting hoarding related peer led support groups, and other hoarding related education and training.
2. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Friends of the Community Learning Center (CLC) grant in the amount of \$23,700 to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$21,825) and to the Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$1,875) from the Jacobs Foundation to provide support for Bridge Program advising, coaching and mentoring, advising for the ESOL/Certified Nursing Assistant Program, and education and career advising for other CLC students.
3. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a grant from the Jacob's Foundation for \$7,300 to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account which will be used to support the salary costs of a part-time Cambridge Employment Program (CEP) Career Counselor who will provide services exclusively to CLC students on site.
4. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Project Bread Food Pantry grant received from the Project Bread organization for \$2,000 to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account which were awarded to the Cambridge Senior Center Food Pantry by Project Bread to pay for purchases at the Greater Boston Food Bank, and for other food purchases for the Senior Food Pantry.
5. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to proposed amendments to Chapter 2.125 of the Cambridge Municipal Code of the GLBT Commission by changing the name of the Cambridge Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Commission to the Cambridge Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission.
6. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, requesting that the City Council adopt an order giving the City of Cambridge permission to apply for, accept and expend state grant funds for Valente Branch Library, which is included in the construction of the King Open and Cambridge Street Upper Schools & Community Complex project.
7. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 16-58, regarding a report on outreach to small business owners.
8. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 16-96, regarding a report on implementing a pay by phone pay by app parking system.
9. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 16-98, regarding a report on retaining on-street bicycle corrals in place all year.
10. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 16-85, regarding autonomous vehicle research.
11. Transmitting Communication from Richard C. Rossi, City Manager, relative to a supplemental appropriation from the Fair Housing Assistance Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for \$5,000 to the Grant Fund Human Rights Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will be used to cover costs of the Partnership program's outreach materials pertaining to housing discrimination and lead paint poisoning.
12. Transmitting Communication from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a supplemental allocation from the Office of the Attorney General, Local Consumer Aid Fund for \$7,000 to the Grant Fund License Commission (Consumer's Council) Salaries and Wages account (\$5,000), to the Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$1,250) and to the Travel and Training account (\$750), to be used as a funding source to support the Consumer's Council Budget in the FY17 Adopted Budget.
13. A communication transmitted from Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager, relative to an update on the building located at 859 Massachusetts Avenue.

## ON THE TABLE

1. An application was received from CareWell Urgent Care, requesting permission for a sandwich board sign in front of the premises numbered 601 Concord Avenue. [Tabled on a motion by Councillor Devereux on Apr 25, 2016.]
2. An application was received from Esmeralda, requesting permission for a sandwich board sign in front of the premises numbered 54 Church Street. [Tabled on a motion by Councillor Devereux on Apr 25, 2016.]
3. The City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate departments to organize regular suppers on the second Saturday of each month, starting on the 13th of August, with free food for the Cambridge community in open public spaces throughout the various Cambridge neighborhoods. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Mazen on June 20, 2016. Tabled on a motion by Councillor Mazen on June 27, 2016.]
4. An application was received from the Boston Ballet, 19 Clarendon Street, Boston, requesting permission to hang twenty-three temporary banners on electrical poles in Harvard Square. These banners will promote the Boston Ballet's The Nutcracker. The temporary banners will be hung from Nov 17 to Jan 3, 2017. Approval has been received from the Electrical Department. [Charter Right exercised by Mayor Simmons on Aug 1, 2016. Tabled on motion of Councillor Toomey on Sept 12, 2016.]
5. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Dennis J. Carlone and Councillor Leland Cheung, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a public hearing held on Sept 22, 2016 to discuss the zoning petition filed by Jane W.

Heatley, President of the William Noyes Webster Foundation, Inc. to amend Section 20.700, Medical Marijuana Overlay Districts by extending the district. [Tabled on motion of Councillor Cheung on Oct 17, 2016.]

6. The City Manager coordinate with the Finance Department, Cambridge Redevelopment Authority, and community stakeholders to outline a proposed system of governance, management, and stakeholder engagement for the Foundry, to be discussed in a public forum with the Council and community. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Toomey on Oct 31, 2016.]

#### **APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

1. An application was received from President & Fellows of Harvard, requesting permission for a projecting sign at the premises numbered 114 Mount Auburn Street. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department, Historical Commission and abutters.
2. An application was received from 23 Hawthorn Street Nominee Trust, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 23 Hawthorn Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. Response has been received from the neighborhood association.
3. An application was received from The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, requesting permission for two new curb cuts and two relocated curb cuts at the premises numbered 25 Hayward Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. No neighborhood association for this area.
4. An application was received from Origins, requesting permission for two projecting blade signs at the premises numbered 8 Brattle Street. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department, Historical Commission and abutters.
5. An application was received from Target, requesting permission for a projecting blade sign and two awnings at the premises numbered 564 Massachusetts Avenue. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Department of Public Works, Community Development Department and abutters.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. A communication was received from Carol O'Hare, regarding Policy Order #3 and #10 of Nov 21, 2016 on pending matters and their status and a City Council Roundtable on the kiosk.
2. A communication was received from Doug Brown, 35 Standish Street, regarding placing all outstanding Policy Orders on file.
3. A communication was received from Lee Farris, 269 Norfolk Street, transmitting support of the draft Inclusionary Housing zoning amendment changes.
4. A communication was received from Hasson Rashid, regarding creating a new pilot curriculum program in the Cambridge School district that links homelessness to poverty, and a relating advisory task force.

5. A communication was received from Michael K. Owu, Director, Real Estate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, transmitting a concise explanation of MIT's application for approval of curb cuts and discontinuance of existing curb cuts for the Kendall Square Initiative.
6. A communication was received from Nicolai Cauchy, 3887 Huron Avenue, regarding parking and stickers.
7. A communication was received from Abra S. Berkowitz, 253 1/2 Broadway, transmitting support to live stream the meeting of the Economic Development and University Relations Committee on December 13.
8. A communication was received from Jim Cusack, 374 Broadway, regarding residential parking permits and related issues.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

1. Congratulation to Breakthrough Greater Boston on its 9th annual Breakthroughs in Education lecture series. Councillor Cheung
2. Resolution on the death of John F. Conroy. Councillor Maher
3. Thanks to MIT, Google, Boston Properties, the City's Information Technology Department, the Cambridge Housing Authority, and Alexandria Real Estate Equities for their collaborative work in implementing "Kendall Wi-Fi." Mayor Simmons
4. Congratulations to Rebecca Berry on her election as secretary of the Boston Society of Architects. Councillor Cheung
5. Congratulations to Doctors Gordon Weir and Susan Bonner-Weir for receiving Joslin Diabetes Center's 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award. Councillor Cheung
6. Congratulations to DigitalOcean on their decision to join the Cambridge community. Councillor Cheung
7. Retirement of Brad Gerratt from the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department. Mayor Simmons
8. Congratulations to Shire on their plans to open a rare disease innovation hub in Kendall Square. Councillor Cheung
9. Resolution on the death of Melvin L. Saunders. Mayor Simmons
10. Resolution on the death of Joseph L. "Harpo" Cyr. Councillor Maher
11. That Cambridgeport fifth graders mobilized the school community effectively to raise a total of \$782.59 for hurricane relief efforts during their three-week campaign in October. Councillor Mazen
12. Congratulating Forrester for being listed on Glassdoor as one of the best places to work. Councillor Cheung
13. Congratulating Akamai for being listed on Glassdoor as one of the best places to work. Councillor Cheung

#### **ORDERS**

1. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council with suggested changes to Cambridge's policy regarding advertising revenue that could help support the continuation and expansion of Hubway in the City of Cambridge. Councillor Toomey
2. That the City Manager is requested to direct with the appropriate City departments to televise and record the

Economic Development and University Relations  
Committee hearing scheduled for Dec 13, 2016. Councillor  
Devereux

3. That the City Manager is requested to make the appropriate staff available to assist the Mayor's Office in facilitating a community conversation about the roles and intersection of race, class, gender, and culture in Cambridge within the first quarter of 2017. Mayor Simmons
4. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council regarding the potential of building affordable housing on City-owned parking lots along Bishop Allen Drive. Vice Mayor McGovern, Mayor Simmons
5. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Law Department with the intention of ensuring that zoning and building code restrictions will not prohibit the rebuilding of the damaged structures and to report back to the City Council with necessary language or steps needed to ensure a straightforward process for families and current property owners to rebuild. Councillor Toomey
6. That the City Manager is requested to ensure that all money raised during this campaign is distributed to the Wellington Harrington residents impacted by this incident and to report back to the City Council when all funds are distributed. Councillor Toomey
7. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the Department of Public Works, the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and any other city departments to reconsider making Appleton Street one-way from Highland Street to Huron Avenue and report back to the Council on this matter, preferably before the start of winter storms. Councillor Devereux, Councillor Maher
8. That the City Manager is requested to confer with DCR to request that the speed limit be reduced to 25 mph on Fresh Pond Parkway from the BB&N Upper School campus to the Route 2/16 split west of the Alewife MBTA station. Councillor Devereux, Councillor Carlone
9. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Inspectional Services Department, the Community Development Department, the Legal Department and any other appropriate city departments to determine what measures can be taken to fast-track the rebuilding of homes impacted by the fire that may be non-conforming with the current zoning code and report back to the Council in a timely manner on what actions can be considered. Councillor Devereux
10. That the City Manager is requested to consult with the Director of Communications, the Community Development Department, the Human Services Department, and Public Safety Departments to develop an outreach and communications plan for renters in Cambridge about the importance and availability of renters insurance and consult with these departments to assist low- and moderate-income tenants in acquiring affordable renters insurance policies, and to report back on both orders. Councillor Devereux
11. That the Mayor is requested to convene a special meeting of the School Committee and the City Council, together with representatives from the Cambridge Teachers Association, appropriate Charter Schools and appropriate

City and CPSD staff to discuss follow-up activities from last year's school threats and this year's hate language incidents. Councillor Kelley

12. That the City Council's Government Operations Committee seek to identify a suitable site to honor Representative Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. for his long and distinguished commitment to the City of Cambridge. Councillor Maher, Mayor Simmons, Councillor Cheung

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Chair of the Transportation and Public Utilities Committee, for a public hearing held on Nov 16, 2016 to discuss gradually increasing the parking permit fee and to consider other improvements to the program to help fund the City's budget towards reducing vehicle miles traveled and to promote alternative forms of transportation.
2. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Dennis J. Carlone and Councillor Leland Cheung, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a public hearing held on Oct 27, 2016 to discuss a zoning petition by the City Council to amend four sections in Article 19.000 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge.
3. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Dennis J. Carlone and Councillor Leland Cheung, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a public hearing held on Oct 27, 2016 to discuss a proposed amendment to the Municipal Code in Title 15 entitled "Buildings and Construction" by adding a new Chapter 15.22 entitled "Outdoor Lighting."

#### **HEARING SCHEDULE**

##### **Mon, Dec 12**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

##### **Tues, Dec 13**

5:00pm The Economic Development and University Relations Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss recent and anticipated development projects and commercial and institutional leasing in Harvard Square, and how such changes may affect the future of Harvard Square. This hearing to be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

##### **Mon, Dec 19**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

##### **Wed, Jan 4**

3:00pm The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing on a petition by the City Council to amend provisions of the Zoning Ordinance related to Inclusionary Housing, including the insertion of new definitions into Article 2.000 and the substitution of revised zoning text for the current text of Sections 11.200 through 11.206. This hearing to be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

##### **Mon, Jan 9**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

##### **Mon, Jan 23**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

##### **Mon, Jan 30**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

##### **Mon, Feb 6**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Feb 13**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Feb 27**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Mar 6**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Mar 13**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Mar 20**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Mar 27**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Apr 3**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Apr 24**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, May 1**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, May 8**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, May 15**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, May 22**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, June 5**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, June 12**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, June 19**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, June 26**

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**Mon, Aug 7**

5:30pm Special City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

**TEXT OF ORDERS**

O-1 Dec 5, 2016

**COUNCILLOR TOOMEY**

WHEREAS: The Hubway Bike Share system is a popular mode of transportation in the City of Cambridge that benefits the users as well as other travelers that experience less traffic on city streets; and

WHEREAS: The City Council and residents have expressed a desire to continue the expansion of the system within Cambridge, which currently operates year round; and

WHEREAS: Advertising revenue, currently embraced in other communities can help with maintaining and expanding the program within Cambridge; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council with suggested changes to Cambridge's policy regarding advertising revenue that could help support the continuation and expansion of Hubway in the City of Cambridge.

O-2 Dec 5, 2016

**COUNCILLOR DEVEREUX**

WHEREAS: The Economic Development and University Relations Committee has scheduled a public hearing on Tues, Dec 13, 2016 at 5:00pm in the Sullivan Chamber; and

WHEREAS: The purpose of this hearing is to discuss recent and anticipated development projects and commercial and institutional

leasing in Harvard Square, and how such changes may affect the future of Harvard Square; and

WHEREAS: The hearing will bring together city staff and property owners in the Square, and will provide an opportunity for public comment as the Council is aware of concerns among residents and small business owners in the square; and

WHEREAS: Due to the time-sensitive nature of this topic, the hearing has been scheduled during the busy holiday season, which may make it difficult for some people to attend the hearing; and

WHEREAS: To ensure that anyone who would like to participate in this process can view this discussion, the Chair of the Economic Development and University Relations Committee is requesting that this hearing be televised and recorded; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate City departments to televise and record the Economic Development and University Relations Committee hearing scheduled for Dec 13, 2016.

O-3 Dec 5, 2016

**MAYOR SIMMONS**

WHEREAS: In the past, the City of Cambridge has periodically conducted public discussions for the purposes of examining the roles and intersections of race, class, gender, and culture within our community; and

WHEREAS: These conversations have been viewed as opportunities to take a critical look and provide an accurate assessment of how the City deals with issues surrounding race, class, gender, and culture, and to determine whether there might be opportunities for the City to improve how it engages with these issues going forward; and

WHEREAS: As the first new president in eight years prepares to take office, the opening months of 2017 would be a timely window in which the City could hold the latest of these community race, class, gender, and culture discussions; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to make the appropriate staff available to assist the Mayor's Office in facilitating a community conversation about the roles and intersection of race, class, gender, and culture in Cambridge within the first quarter of 2017.

O-4 Dec 12, 2016

**VICE MAYOR MCGOVERN**

**MAYOR SIMMONS**

WHEREAS: The City Council, community and City administration have all identified the lack of affordable housing as a crisis; and

WHEREAS: In the last term, the City Council asked the City administration to evaluate building affordable housing on City-owned parking lots along Bishop Allen Drive; and

WHEREAS: The City Council has yet to receive a report as to the potential of building affordable housing on these City-owned parking lots; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council by the last meeting in January 2017 as to the status of this request.

O-5 Dec 12, 2016

**COUNCILLOR TOOMEY**

WHEREAS: The fire of Dec 3, 2016 destroyed many multi family structures in the Harrington Wellington neighborhood; and

WHEREAS: Many of these structures would not be complaint to current day zoning or current day building code regulations; and

WHEREAS: Providing families and generational property owners the opportunity to rebuild their lives and remain in the community is a priority; and

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Law Department with the intention of ensuring that zoning and building code restrictions will not prohibit the rebuilding of the damaged structures and to report back to the City Council with necessary language or steps needed to ensure a

straightforward process for families and current property owners to rebuild.

O-6 Dec 12, 2016

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The Mayor's Fire Relief Fund is raising money for residents impacted by the Dec 3, 2016 fire; now therefore be it ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ensure that all money raised during this campaign is distributed to the Wellington Harrington residents impacted by this incident and to report back to the City Council when all funds are distributed.

O-7 Dec 12, 2016

COUNCILLOR DEVEREUX

COUNCILLOR MAHER

WHEREAS: The intersection of Appleton Street and Huron Avenue at the southern two-way end has been narrowed in the course of the sewer separation and Huron Avenue redesign projects; and

WHEREAS: Two-way traffic entering and exiting Appleton Street at Huron Avenue has become more difficult due to the new bump-out with a fire hydrant and a loading zone at the corner opposite, leaving barely enough space for one car at a time; and

WHEREAS: The corner of Appleton Street and Huron Avenue is home to two heavily-visited local businesses as well as an MBTA bus stop; and

WHEREAS: Nearby residents and the merchants on the Appleton Street corner have expressed concern that the narrowing of Appleton Street while still allowing two-way traffic is making the intersection less safe for all users, and that piles of plowed snow will compound the problem; and

WHEREAS: Residents and merchants have asked if Appleton Street can be made one-way from Highland Street to Huron Avenue to prevent gridlock; and

WHEREAS: Sparks Street is one-way going toward Brattle Street from Huron Avenue, so this block of Appleton Street could be made one-way in the opposite direction; and

WHEREAS: The other segment of Appleton Street from Highland Street to Brattle Street is wider and could remain two-way; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Department of Public Works, the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and any other city departments to reconsider making Appleton Street one-way from Highland Street to Huron Avenue; and further be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the Council on this matter, preferably before the start of winter storms.

O-8 Dec 12, 2016

COUNCILLOR DEVEREUX

COUNCILLOR CARLONE

WHEREAS: On Thursday, Dec 8th, 2016, the speed limit on City-owned streets in Cambridge was reduced to 25 miles per hour (mph), as a component of the City's Vision Zero Initiative; and

WHEREAS: The City was granted the authority to lower speed limits by the State Legislature's adoption of the Municipal Modernization bill, which gives municipalities the ability to lower speed limits in "thickly settled" areas to 25 mph, as well as to create "safety zones" with a 20 mph hour speed limit; and

WHEREAS: The new regulations apply only to City-owned streets, while those controlled by the state Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), including Fresh Pond Parkway, will remain at their original speed limit; and

WHEREAS: Fresh Pond Parkway bisects a residential neighborhood in Cambridge, and residents in the area often express concern that vehicles speed on the Parkway, and there have been many crashes onto sidewalks, damaging residential fences and street trees; and

WHEREAS: Speed is one of the most critical factors in traffic safety, as crashes that occur at lower speeds cause less injury to those involved; and

WHEREAS: On Fresh Pond Parkway, the speed limit is posted at 25mph at the section directly adjacent to Mount Auburn Hospital, but not on the rest of the Parkway, which carries up to 40,000 vehicles a day through a residential neighborhood and is very narrow; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with DCR to request that the speed limit be reduced to 25 mph on Fresh Pond Parkway from the BB&N Upper School campus to the Route 2/16 split west of the Alewife MBTA station.

O-9 Dec 12, 2016

COUNCILLOR DEVEREUX

WHEREAS: The devastating fire that began on Berkshire Street on Saturday, Dec 3, 2016 displaced over 100 people; and

WHEREAS: Three buildings are slated for complete demolition, one building is being partially razed, and there is significant damage to several other buildings; and

WHEREAS: The damage to the impacted area is significant, and millions of dollars will be needed to rebuild or attend to impacted buildings; and

WHEREAS: Many residential buildings in the densely-packed Wellington-Harrington neighborhood are older housing stock featuring double- and triple-deckers, and many older buildings throughout the city are non-conforming with the current zoning code; and

WHEREAS: Under existing zoning, any non-conforming buildings that need to be reconstructed or significantly renovated could not be rebuilt to their prior dimensions without obtaining variances; and

WHEREAS: Obtaining a variance for each building that needs to be rebuilt either completely or partially would add time and cost to the project, delaying residents moving back into their homes; and

WHEREAS: It must be the goal of the City Council and the City of Cambridge to do everything possible to get people back into their homes and fast-track the reconstruction of any buildings impacted by the fire; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Inspectional Services Department, the Community Development Department, the Legal Department and any other appropriate city departments to determine what measures can be taken to fast-track the rebuilding of homes impacted by the fire that may be non-conforming with the current zoning code; and be it further

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

O-10 Dec 12, 2016

COUNCILLOR DEVEREUX

WHEREAS: The devastating fire in the Wellington-Harrington area on Saturday, Dec 3, 2016, left about 50 households with varying degrees of substantial property losses; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 70% of the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood's residents are renters and in Cambridge as a whole, more than two-thirds of residents are renters; and

WHEREAS: While renters insurance is a relatively inexpensive means of protection against damage from fire, flooding, theft, and other loss, many tenants do not carry it and may not be able to afford to replace belongings lost in a disaster; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Director of Communications, the Community Development Department, the Human Services Department, and Public Safety Departments to develop an outreach and communications plan for renters in Cambridge about the importance and availability of renters insurance; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with these departments to assist low- and moderate-income tenants in acquiring affordable renters insurance policies, and to report back on both orders.

O-11 Dec 12, 2016  
COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: A number of hateful and anti-Semitic messages have been scrawled on bathroom surfaces in Cambridge public schools; and

WHEREAS: There has still been no official closure of last school year's flurry of internet-based threats against Cambridge public schools; and

WHEREAS: School staff members and City public safety officials have to work together to address potential, emerging and existing safety and security issues in and around our schools; and

WHEREAS: Many school staff members, especially teaching staff, do not necessarily have the appropriate training and support to effectively manage these safety and security issues in addition to their existing duties; now therefore be it;

ORDERED: That the Mayor be and hereby is requested to convene a special meeting of the School Committee and the City Council, together with representatives from the Cambridge Teachers Association, appropriate Charter Schools and appropriate City and CPSD staff to discuss follow-up activities from last year's school threats and this year's hate language incidents; and be it further

ORDERED: That, given the changing context of challenging safety and security issues as well as a renewed focus, nationwide, on the importance of cultural competency, the City Council is willing to raise the CPSD budget allocation beyond the formulaic allocation used in past years to help CPSD address specific budgetary needs that would otherwise not be covered in the CPSD budget.

O-12 Dec 12, 2016  
COUNCILLOR MAHER  
MAYOR SIMMONS  
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. began his career in public service as a member of the Cambridge School Committee, where he served from 1986–1990; and

WHEREAS: Tim went on to be elected as a member of the Cambridge City Council, where he has served since January 1990; and

WHEREAS: Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. also represented the residents of the City of Cambridge and the City of Somerville as the State Representative of the 26th Middlesex District for the past 24 years; and

WHEREAS: During his tenure as State Representative from the 26th Middlesex District, Tim served as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Service, Joint Chair of Public Safety, Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, and currently serves as Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Revenue; and

WHEREAS: Throughout his long and distinguished career as a member of the Massachusetts House, Representative Toomey has fought for tougher gun control, equal rights and protections for the LGBTQ community, fair and just treatment of immigrants, and greater access to family planning services across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS: Representative Toomey played a key role in the renewal of the Massachusetts Assault Weapons Ban and worked to further equal access to higher education for undocumented youth; and

WHEREAS: Tim has also been a tireless advocate for the Green Line Extension and the Grand Junction Rail Trail Project; and

WHEREAS: Perhaps what Tim is best known for is his tireless constituent service work and his deep commitment to his East Cambridge neighborhood; and

WHEREAS: Representative Toomey's tenure as State Representative will end on January 5th, 2017; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council's Government Operations Committee seek to identify a suitable site to honor Representative Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. for his long and distinguished commitment to the City of Cambridge; and be it further  
ORDERED: That the Government Operations Committee forward its recommendation to the full City Council for approval.