

# CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

# SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 5:30 PM SULLIVAN CHAMBER

# ~MINUTES~

MEETING Monday, September 18, 2023

TIME 5:30 PM

PRESIDING OFFICER Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

# Monday, September 18, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Cambridge City Council was held on Monday, September 18, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, adopted by Massachusetts General Assembly and approved by the Governor, this public meeting was hybrid allowing participation in person and via Zoom.

# The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll. City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Present/In Person

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Present/In Person

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Present/In Person

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Present/In Person

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Present/In Person

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Present/In Person

Councillor Paul Toner – Present/In Person

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Present/In Person

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Present/In Person

Present-9, Quorum established.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized individuals for public comment. The following individuals participated and were allowed up to 2 minutes to speak:

# **Public Comment**

Suzanne Blier, 5 Fuller Place, Cambridge, MA, offered comments on the NCD and the City being more transparent regarding what is on the Council Agenda.

Dan Totten, 54 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge, MA, offered comments on the Community Safety Department's memo and shared concerns about the Council not incorporating the HEART program.

Andrew Spielberg, 91 Sidney Street, Cambridge, MA, offered comments in support of affordable housing and suggestions on rent control.

Young Kim, 17 Norris Street, Cambridge, MA, offered comments on Unfinished Business #6 and asked that the AHO amendments expire to give CDD a baseline and goal on affordable housing.

Timmy Sullivan, Decatur, GA, spoke in favor of POR 2023 #159 and offered comments on environmental concerns and police military organization.

Evan MacKay, 64 Linnaean Street, Cambridge, MA, spoke in favor of POR 2023 #159 and the importance of climate control.

Madeleine Clarke, 175 River Street, Cambridge, MA, spoke in favor of Policy Order #159 without amendments and offered comments on militarized police and deforestation.

Madeleine Weikel, 39 Boylston Street, Watertown, MA, spoke in strong support of Policy Order #159 and offered comments on the impact of climate change.

Adrienne Ashe, 342 Park Street, spoke in favor of Policy Order #159 with no amendments and urged the Council to listen to those who are voicing their concerns.

Marilee Meyer, 10 Dana Street, Cambridge, MA, offered comments and concerns on NCD and AHO.

Leila Skinner, 37 Lee Street, Cambridge, MA, shared their support for Policy Order #159 with no amendments.

Tina Alu, 113 ½ Pleasant Street, Cambridge, MA, from the CEOC, urged the Council to vote in favor of the Community Preservation Act Committee's recommendation on how to utilize the FY24 CPA funds.

Carrie Pasquarello, 230 Upland Road, Cambridge, MA, offered comments that were against Policy Order #159 which included not allowing Police Officers to train or collaborate at any similar training facilities like the one in Atlanta. They noted the importance of Police Officers to participate in national training facilities.

Emma Roth, 114 Chestnut Street, Cambridge, MA, shared their strong support for Policy Order #159 and offered comments on climate change and police militarization.

James Williamson, 30 Churchill Avenue, Cambridge, MA, shared their support for those who have spoken on Policy Order #159 and offered comments on public safety within Cambridge.

Heather Hoffman, 213 Hurley Street, Cambridge, MA, offered comments on the Resolution of Lesley Phillips, CPA, preserving records and public access to records, and the AHO amendments.

Mary Ellen Doran, 48 Spring Street, Cambridge, MA, shared that they participated in the amendments to the NCD and thanked everyone who participated with respect.

Mari Gashaw, 320 Rindge Avenue, Cambridge, MA, shared their strong support for Policy Order #159 with no amendments and urged the Council to listen to their residents.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to close public comment.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

#### SUBMISSION OF THE RECORD

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Azeem who made a motion to accept the minutes from the Special City Council Meeting held on August 23, 2023.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

# RECONSIDERATION

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Simmons who made a motion to reconsider the vote taken on POR 2023 #159 on September 11, 2023.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Simmons who made a motion to amend POR 2023 #159 by striking out the words "or any similar facilities, in any way" from the first Resolved.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – No

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – No

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – No

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – No

Yes-5. No-4. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Simmons who made a motion to adopt POR 2023 #159 as amended.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Present

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Present

Councillor Paul Toner - No

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-6, No-1, Present-2. Motion Passed.

# CITY MANAGER AGENDA ITEMS

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan on CMA 2023 #239 relative to the appointment of Lauren Reznick as a member of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority for a term of five years.

Councillor Nolan made a motion to refer the matter to the Neighborhood and Long Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts and Celebrations Committee.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized the Co-Chairs of the Finance Committee on CMA 2023 #240 relative to recommendations of the Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) for 2023. Councillor Carlone and Councillor Nolan each offered remarks. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve 80% of FY2024 CPA Local Fund revenues (\$10,400,000) allocated to Affordable Housing and appropriated to the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner - Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$500,000 appropriated to 1627 Massachusetts Avenue restoration.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner - Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui - Yes

#### Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$700,000 appropriated to Historic Preservation Grants.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui - Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$100,000 appropriated to Preservation Projects Administrator.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$1,300,000 appropriated to Gold Star Mothers (Gore St) Park Paved Area Renovation.

#### City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons - Yes

Councillor Paul Toner - Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve 80% of FY2023 State Match revenues (\$2,400,000) allocated to Affordable Housing and appropriated to the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner - Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$200,000 appropriated to Legislative Records Preservation Processing.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

#### Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$100,000 appropriated to Stony Brook Gatehouse Masonry Restoration.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$300,000 appropriated to the Rafferty Park Partial Construction.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve 80% of the Fund Balance (3,680,000) allocated to Affordable Housing and appropriated to the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Ouinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$12,000 appropriated to 22-CityView Record Material preservation processing.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner - Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$194,000 appropriated to Fresh Pond Clubhouse Windows.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner - Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$20,000 appropriated to Sennott Park Historic Marker.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui - Yes

Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$150,000 appropriated to Stony Brook Gatehouse Masonry Restoration.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$84,000 appropriated to Library special collections preservation processing, including newspapers, assessor's records, and the reference collection.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$460,000 appropriated to the Rafferty Park Partial Construction.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner - Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to approve \$10,000 appropriated to Administrative Costs for Community Preservation Coalition membership dues.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

#### Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern who made a motion to suspend the rules relative to the seventeen votes taken defined in CMA 2023 #240.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

# Yes-9. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern who moved reconsideration of the 17 votes for the CPAC for 2024.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - No

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – No

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – No

Councillor Marc C. McGovern - No

Councillor Patricia Nolan – No

Councillor E. Denise Simmons - No

Councillor Paul Toner – No

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - No

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – No

Yes-0, No-9. Motion Failed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to place CMA 2023 #240 on file.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Zondervan on CMA 2023 #241 relative to a Surveillance Technology Impact Report.

Councillor Zondervan exercised his Charter Right on CMA 2023 #241.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Zondervan for comments and questions on CMA 2023 #242 relative to a Community Safety Department Update. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui also recognized Councillor McGovern and Vice Mayor Mallon for comments and questions to which City Manager Huang responded.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Vice Mayor Mallon who made a motion to place CMA 2023 #242 on file.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan on CMA 2023 #243 relative to the City Manager's Fall Update. Councillor Nolan noted that the report was heartening and expressed her appreciation to the team. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Carlone who also offered praise, noting that this is evidence of the commitment of the administration. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Zondervan who acknowledged that the budget process has been much more collaborative and offered that it needs to be even more so going forward. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui, also offered comments noting some of the great work that has been done and that there is always more to do.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Carlone who made a motion to place CMA 2023 #243 on file.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern on CMA 2023 #244 relative to a technical edit of the Affordable Housing Overlay language.

Councillor McGovern made a motion to suspend the rules to bring forward Unfinished Business Item 6, Proposed Ordinance 2023 #7 that passed to a second reading in full Council on September 11, 2023.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern who made a motion to amend Proposed Ordinance 2023 #7 that passed to a second reading in full Council on September 11, 2023 by substitution with the new language provided by City staff.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern who made a motion to place CMA 2023 #244 on file.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

#### CALENDAR/CHARTER RIGHT

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern for comments on Charter Right Item 1, POR 2023 #153, relative to Central Square.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Simmons who made a motion to amend POR 2023 #153 by substitution.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern and Councillor Carlone for comments.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern who made a motion to adopt POR 2023 #153 as amended by Substitution. Copy attached.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Toner on POR 2023 #157 relative to affordable home ownership.

Councillor Toner made a motion to refer POR 2023 #157 to the Housing Committee. City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem - No

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – No

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan - No

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-6, No-3. Motion Passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Toner on POR 2023 #158 regarding amendments to the Green Roof Zoning Ordinance.

Councillor Toner made a motion to adopt POR 2023 #158.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern on Unfinished Business Item 4, Proposed Ordinance 2022 #11 passed to a second reading in full Council on August 7, 2023.

Councillor McGovern made a motion to amend the language passed to a second reading. Councillor McGovern's amendments were provided in the Council Chamber and shown on the screen.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

# The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to further amend Proposed Ordinance 2022 #11.

Councillor Nolan's amendments were provided in the Council Chamber and shown on the screen.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – No

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – No

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – No

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – No

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – No

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – No

Yes-3, No-6. Motion Failed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern who made a motion to place CMA 2023 #195 and CMA 2023 #196 on file.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Zondervan on Unfinished Business Item 5, an Ordinance 2023 - 4, relative to amending Article 4.30 and Article 11.800 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge.

Councillor Zondervan explained that this ordinance is related to Cannabis and made a motion to Ordain as amended. See Attachment.

# City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Yes

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-9. Motion Passed.

# **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to place all communications on file.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

#### RESOLUTIONS

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to adopt the orders for RES 2023 #248, RES 2023 #250, and RES 2023 #251.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan on RES 2023 #249, on the death of Lesley Phillips.

Councillor Nolan made a motion to amend the resolution by adding an additional Whereas that reads "Lesley served the City in many ways, including service on the LGBTQ Commission from its formation until her death; and"

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Simmons who made a motion to further amend the resolution by adding the words "an activist in her own right" to the first whereas.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to adopt the order for RES 2023 #249 as amended.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

#### POLICY ORDERS

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui made a motion to adopt POR 2023 #161 and POR 2023 #164. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Calone on POR 2023 #162.

Councillor Carlone made a motion to add Councillor Nolan as a cosponsor.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Carlone who made a motion to adopt POR 2023 #162 as amended.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Toner on POR 2023 #163 relative to an ordinance that would lead to a phased in ban of the use of gas-powered leaf blowers in Cambridge. Councillor Toner commented on the importance of doing outreach to those impacted. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who responded. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to adopt POR2023 #163.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

# COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER CITY OFFICERS

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui made a motion to place COF 2023 #156 and COF 2023 #157 on file.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

#### LATE ITEMS

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui made a motion to adopt the orders for the eight late resolutions filed by Councillor Simmons; RES 2023 #252 congratulating Manika Bowman, RES 2023 #253 wishing happy birthday to Rev. Lorraine Thornhill, RES 2023 #254 wishing happy birthday to Steven Tolman, RES 2023 #255 wishing happy birthday to Red Mitchell, RES 2023 #256 wishing happy birthday to Anthony Petruccelli, RES 2023 #257 wishing happy birthday to Marvin Gilmore, RES 2023 #258 wishing happy birthday to Ruby Pearson and RES 2023 #259 wishing happy birthday to Polly Allen.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for a late filed policy order, POR 2023 #165, relative to a time sensitive transportation grant application.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who explained the need to go on record supporting the grant application and noted the deadline for doing so.

Councillor Nolan made a motion to amend POR 2023 #165 to add the entire membership as cosponsors.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to adopt POR 2023 #165 as amended.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to suspend Rule 16 to allow reconsideration.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who made a motion to reconsider the vote taken on POR 2023 #165.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion failed.

# **ADJOURN**

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui made a motion to adjourn.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called for a voice vote. The motion passed.

The Cambridge City Council adjourned at approximately 8:37 p.m.

#### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: POR 2023 #153, relative to Central Square, adopted as amended by substitution.

Attachment B: Zoning Ordinance 2023-4, relative to Cannabis, amending Article 4.30 and Article 11.800 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge.

Attachment C: Written comments received from a member of the public during public comment, per Council Rule 22.

**Clerk's Note:** The City of Cambridge/22 City View records every City Council meeting and every City Council Committee meeting. It can be viewed at this link.

 $\frac{https://cambridgema.granicus.com/player/clip/574?view\_id=1\&redirect=true\&h=181e359c48df5}{7d560bff1fd4852e624}$ 

#### **ATTACHMENT A**

#### POR 2023 #153 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY SUBSTITUTION ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

WHEREAS: Central Square is Cambridge's busiest and most diverse square, serving thousands of people each day and

WHEREAS: Central Square has been the focus of numerous studies and City action plans over the past 40 years

WHEREAS: Despite such attention many of the plans arising from these sessions remain unimplemented which has led to a frustratingly continuous cycle of committees, task forces, studies, and reports being issued while the City Council and Administration have failed to coherently follow through on these plans and recommendations to meaningfully address quality of life issues and revitalize the area to enhance the designated cultural district, add housing, music and art venues to the area, and

WHEREAS: Resolving these challenges requires proactive, robust, and systematic approaches, transparency and regular communication with the public and stakeholders, and a willingness on the part of the City Administration and the Council to not only identify potential corrective actions but to commit to and follow through on these plans; therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with his senior leadership team, relevant stakeholders and experts to review and analyze all prior studies, reports, and recommendations regarding Central Square and develop an action plan to implement the most recent planning and policy initiatives for Central Square, prioritizing immediate actionable "low- hanging fruit" recommendations, zoning changes, and to develop a comprehensive plan to address the quality of life issues in and around Central Square; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide monthly progress reports to the City Council, detailing the strategies being designed and implemented to address the issues in Central Square, including the metrics being used to measure success, as part of the City Manager's Agenda section of the regular council meetings and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council reaffirms its commitment to work collaboratively with the City Manager and all relevant parties to ensure Central Square remains a cornerstone of the City, safe and inviting for all who live, work, or visit the neighborhood.

# ATTACHMENT B

# ORDINANCE NO. 2023-4 – FINAL PUBLICATION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-three AN ORDINANCE

That the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge be amended on a Zoning Petition by the City Council to amend Article 4.30 and Article 11.800 as follows:

# Amend Article 4.30 of the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

	Open Space	Res A 1&2	Res B	Res C, C-1, C- 1A, 2, 2A, 2B, 3, 3A, 3B	Off 1, 2A, 2, 3, 3A	Bus A-1, A-2, A-3 <sup>1</sup>	Bus A, A-4	Bus B, B-1, B-2	Bus C	Ind A-1, A-2	Ind A	Ind B-1, B-2	Ind B
4.32 Transportation, Communication & Utility Uses													
I. Cannabis Courier Establishment	No	No	No	No	Yes 58	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup> 8	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes 58	Yes 58	Yes 58	Yes 58
4.35 Retail or Consumer Service Establishments													
s. Cannabis Retail Store	No	No	No	No	No	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup> 8	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes 58	No	Yes 58	Yes 58
4.37 Light Industry, Wholesale Business and Storage													
n. Cannabis Production Facility	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	PB <sup>5</sup> 8	No
o. Cannabis Delivery Operator Establishment	No	No	No	No	Yes 58	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes 58	Yes 58	Yes 58	Yes 58

#### Amend Article 11.800 of the Zoning Ordinance as follows:

#### 11.800 CANNABIS USES

**11.801**Statement of Purpose. The purpose of this section is to provide for the limited establishment of Registered Marijuana Dispensaries for the medical use of cannabis products and Cannabis Establishments for the non-medical use of cannabis products, as they are authorized pursuant to applicable state laws and regulations.

#### 11.802General Requirements

#### 11.802.1 Allowed Cannabis Uses.

- (a) Cannabis Retail Stores, Cannabis Delivery Operator Establishments, and Cannabis Production Facilities shall be allowed as set forth in the Table of Use Regulations (Section 4.30 of this Zoning Ordinance), subject to the requirements set forth in this Section 11.800, et seq.
- (b) Cannabis Retail Stores, Cannabis Delivery Operator Establishments, or Cannabis Production Facilities, as defined in Article 2.000 of this Zoning Ordinance, may be established to provide cannabis products for medical or non-medical use, or both, in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations.
- (c) A Cannabis Establishment that is licensed as a Cannabis Independent Testing Laboratory or Cannabis Research Facility pursuant to applicable state laws and regulations, but is not authorized to sell or otherwise transfer Cannabis Products to consumers or to cultivate, manufacture, or otherwise produce Cannabis Products that are intended to be sold or otherwise transferred to consumers, shall be regulated within the Table of Use Regulations in Section 4.30 of this Zoning Ordinance as a Technical Office (Section 4.34, Item "f") or, if such establishment is noncommercial, a Noncommercial Research Facility (Section 4.33, Item "c"). Such establishment shall comply with all state and local laws and regulations, including regulations promulgated by the Cambridge Public Health Department, where applicable.
- 11.802.2Licenses and Registration. A Special Permit (where applicable), Building Permit or Certificate of Occupancy issued pursuant to this Section shall be conditioned on the Permittee maintaining all required state and local licenses and/or registrations and complying with all applicable state and local public health regulations and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations at all times. No Building Permit or Certificate of Occupancy shall be issued for a Cannabis Use that is not properly licensed and/or registered with the applicable state and local agencies.
- 11.802.3Limitation of Approval. A Special Permit (where applicable), Building Permit or Certificate of Occupancy authorizing the establishment of a Cannabis Use shall be valid only for the licensed or registered entity to which the permit was issued, and only for the site on which the Cannabis Use has been permitted. If the license or registration for a Cannabis Use has not been renewed or has been revoked, transferred to another controlling entity, or relocated to a different site, a new special permit and/or building permit, where applicable, shall be required prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.
- **11.802.4**Building. A Cannabis Establishment shall be located only in a permanent building and not within any mobile facility. All sales, cultivation, manufacturing, and other related activities shall be conducted within the building, except in cases where home deliveries are authorized in accordance with 935 CMR 500.000 and other applicable state and local regulations.

#### 11.803Location Standards.

#### 11.803.1 Cannabis Retail Stores.

- (a) Cannabis Retail Stores shall be allowed only in those districts set forth in the Table of Use Regulations (Section 4.30 of this Zoning Ordinance) and special districts and overlay districts whose use regulations are based on those districts, subject to any limitations set forth in the regulations of those districts. In the Business A-1 district, only applicants that have been designed as Economic Empowerment Applicants or certified as eligible to participate in the Social Equity Program by the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission may be permitted and such designation or eligibility shall be maintained.
- (b) A Cannabis Retail Store shall not be permitted within one thousand and eight hundred (1,800) feet of another Cannabis Retail Store, except if the applicant has been designated as an Economic Empowerment Applicant or certified as eligible to participate in the Social Equity Program by the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission and maintains that designation and/or certification.
- (c) All products offered to consumers shall be pre-packaged off-site, and no packaging or repackaging of cannabis or marijuana products shall take place on the premises of a Cannabis Retail Store unless it is also meets the requirements for a Cannabis Production Facility.
- **11.803.2**Cannabis Delivery Operator Establishments shall be allowed only in those districts set forth in the Table of Use Regulations (Section 4.30 of this Zoning Ordinance) and special districts and overlay districts whose use regulations are based on those districts, subject to any limitations set forth in the regulations of those districts and provided that the establishment is not greater than 10,000 square feet in Gross Floor Area and that no packaging or repackaging of cannabis or marijuana products shall take place on the premises.
- **11.803.3**Cannabis Production Facilities shall be allowed only by Planning Board Special Permit in those districts set forth in the Table of Use Regulations (Section 4.30 of this Zoning Ordinance) and special districts and overlay districts whose use regulations are based on those districts, subject to any limitations set forth in the regulations of those districts and provided that the establishment is not greater than 10,000 square feet in Gross Floor Area.

#### 11.803.4Buffer Zones.

- (a) A Cannabis Retail Store or Cannabis Production Facility shall not be permitted within 300 feet of a pre-existing public or private school providing education in kindergarten or any of grades one through 12, except where the Planning Board, in issuing a special permit, approves a reduced distance upon finding that the location will cause no substantial adverse impact due to site-specific factors or other mitigating efforts agreed to in writing by the permittee and made conditions of the special permit.
- (b) A Cannabis Retail Store or Cannabis Production Facility shall not be permitted within 300 feet of a pre-existing public children's playground, public youth athletic field, or public youth recreation facility, except where the Planning Board, in issuing a special permit, approves a reduced distance upon finding that the location will cause no substantial adverse impact due to site-specific factors or other mitigating efforts agreed to in writing by the permittee and made conditions of the special permit.

# **11.804**Parking and Transportation.

(a) Any Cannabis Courier Establishment, Cannabis Delivery Operator Establishment, or other Cannabis Establishment shall park and store all delivery vehicles off-street. Such requirement

- may not be reduced or waived. Delivery vehicles shall not be parked on-street except for authorized active loading/unloading activities. Delivery vehicles may be parked in facilities that are accessory to the Cannabis Use or in authorized principal use parking facilities.
- (b) All parking spaces to be used by customers, employees, visitors, or delivery vehicles shall be registered with the Cambridge Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department (TPTD), including a parking layout plan, in accordance with Chapter 10.18 of the City of Cambridge Code of Ordinances, and shall comply with all other applicable state or local laws, regulations, and ordinances.
- (c) All Cannabis Retail Stores, Cannabis Courier Establishments, Cannabis Delivery Operator Establishments, and Cannabis Production Facilities shall submit an Operations and Logistics Plan to the Cambridge TPTD and Cambridge Police Department before applying for a special permit (where applicable), building permit or certificate of occupancy. Such plan shall include the following information using narratives and graphics:
  - hours of operation and anticipated numbers of employees and consumers on-site during operating hours;
  - (2) expected frequency of loading/unloading trips by delivery and service vehicles;
  - (3) access and egress routes for customers and employees;
  - (4) locations of parking and bicycle parking areas for customers and employees;
  - (5) number of delivery vehicles, where applicable, and locations where they will be stored on-site;
  - (6) locations where loading/unloading and service activities will take place and a description of how such activities will be conducted;
  - (7) a description of transportation options for customers and employees, including public transportation services, on-site and off-site parking facilities, transportation demand management measures to encourage and support sustainable forms of travel for employees and customers, and short-term and long-term bicycle facilities;
  - (8) specific measures that will be employed by the Cannabis Use to prevent adverse impacts on the public way including but not limited to sidewalk crowding, blocking of vehicular or bicycle travel lanes, potential safety hazards, and other issues identified by City departments; and
  - (9) a specific plan for the initial opening period that includes measures to identify and respond to unexpected impacts.
- (d) The Cambridge TPTD and Cambridge Police Department shall approve a final Operations and Logistics Plan prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy for a Cannabis Use, and may require operational practices to prevent or correct adverse impacts of the operation of the Cannabis Use on the public way, including but not limited to crowding on the public sidewalk, blocking of travel lanes by vehicles, or hazardous conditions. Such practices may include, but are not limited to, restrictions on the use of the public way, required pre-purchase and/or appointment-only customer service for a period of time, restrictions on the location and/or timing of loading/unloading activities, or similar measures. When granting a special permit, where applicable, the Planning Board may also include conditions pertaining to the Operations and Logistics Plan.

- **11.805**Application Requirements. An application to the Planning Board for a Cannabis Production Facility shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:
  - (a) Description of Activities: a narrative providing information about the type and scale of all activities that will take place on the proposed site, including but not limited to cultivating and processing of Cannabis Products, on-site sales, off-site deliveries, distribution of educational materials, and other programs or activities.
  - (b) Context Map: A map identifying, at a minimum, the location of the proposed establishment, the locations of all other Cannabis Uses in the vicinity, the locations of all public or private schools providing education in kindergarten or any of grades one through 12, and the locations of all children's playgrounds, youth athletic fields, or other youth recreation facilities, with measured distances provided to demonstrate whether the location complies with the standards of Section 11.803 above.
  - (c) Site Plan: A plan or plans depicting all existing and proposed development on the property, including the dimensions of the building, the detailed layout of automobile and bicycle parking, the location of pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular points of access and egress, the location and design of all loading, refuse and service facilities, the location, type and direction of all outdoor lighting on the site, and any landscape design.
  - (d) Building Elevations and Signage: Architectural drawings of all exterior building facades and all proposed signage, specifying materials and colors to be used. Perspective drawings and illustrations of the site from public ways and abutting properties are recommended but not required.
  - (e) Initial Operations and Logistics Plan: Containing the information set forth in Paragraph (d) of Section 11.804 above.
  - (f) License or Registration Materials: Copies of all materials submitted to applicable state and local agencies for the purpose of licensing and/or registration, and any certification or license issued by any such agency, excluding any information required by law to be kept confidential.
- **11.806**Special Permit Criteria. In granting a special permit for a Cannabis Production Facility Use, in addition to the general criteria for issuance of a special permit as set forth in Section 10.43 of this Zoning Ordinance, the Planning Board shall find that the following criteria are met:
  - (a) The site is designed such that it provides convenient, safe and secure access and egress for customers and employees arriving to and leaving from the site using all modes of transportation, including drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists and public transportation users.
  - (b) On-site loading, refuse and service areas are designed to be secure and shielded from abutting uses.
  - (c) The building and site have been designed to be compatible with other buildings in the area and to mitigate any negative aesthetic impacts that might result from required security measures and restrictions on visibility into the building's interior and/or from restrictions on direct access by consumers.
  - (d) If the proposed Cannabis Production Facility is not proposed to include a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center, it will nevertheless provide programs to assist qualifying patients within the city or neighborhood who are registered through the Massachusetts Medical Use of Marijuana Program in obtaining services under that program.

(Ord. No. 2021-8, 6-28-2021)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 2021-8, adopted June 28, 2021, repealed the former § 11.800, and enacted a new § 11.800 as set out herein. The former § 11.800 pertained to similar subject matter and derived from Ord. No. 1404, adopted Dec. 17, 2018.

In City Council September 18, 2023. Ordained by a yea and nay vote:-Yeas 9; Nays 0; Absent 0. Attest:- Diane P. LeBlanc, City Clerk

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Diane P. LeBlanc City Clerk

Dino O. Rallan



Attach ment C

From:

Young Kim <ycknorris@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, September 18, 2023 5:57 PM

To:

City Clerk

Subject:

My oral comment

Attachments:

9\_18\_Unfinished #6 Comment.docx

Dear City Clerk LeBlanc,

Because I had a full 3 minutes, I expanded my comment and attached is the revised comments.

Thank you,

Young

9/18/2023 City Council Meeting Young Kim 17 Norris Street On Unfinished business #6

There are many existing Affordable housing development tools available and many more holistic tools out there if we all work together to find them.

In my Letter to the Editor of Cambridge Day, I urged you to let Unfinished Business #6, Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) amendments, to expire to give the CDD time to establish the baseline and goal of affordable housing and assess whether the amendments are consistent with them and to assess their impact. The letter has all my reasons based on Envision Cambridge and States Subsidized Housing Inventory.

I would like to point out that the pro-AHO2 comments seem not to acknowledge data I have presented. Therefore, I would like to request Mayor and City Council to call a fact checking meeting with the City Staff and pro-AHO2 representatives, not to debate the merits of AHO2, but to see if we can reach a common understanding of the need and goal. I will present facts as I know with documents to back them up and then for each fact, we will decide if that is valid. Period. This way we can establish true need for affordable housing and perhaps shed a light on a way forward to achieve the goal without tearing apart Envision Cambridge's ultimate goal, the blue print for the future of our City.

Envision Cambridge affordable housing goal of one out of every 4 new housing built is imposing inclusionary housing quota on all development, and goes beyond current "market-rate developments reserve 20% of the floor area for affordable units."

I am prepared to do so (please see page 2) during your discussion of Unfinished Business #6 tonight if you will allow me with understanding some data is still unknown for which I have reached out to CDD for further information.

Thank you,

Description	Value	Comment				
	(A PTE	Source - Executive Office of Housing and Livable				
2020 Census Year Round Housing Units (YRHU)	53,467	Communities Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing				
		Inventory (SHI) as of June 29, 2023*				
Total Development Units**	7,089					
Total Development Units as % of YRHU	13.3%	Need better inclusionary formula				
SHI Units	6,896					
SHI as % of YRHU	12.9%					
2030 target growth of total Housing Units	12,500	envisioncambridgehousing.pdf (cambridgema.gov); pg 152				
% Target total Housing Units growth from YRHU	23.4%					
2030 YRHU Goal	65,967					
Share of housing production that is dedicated as affordable, 2019–2030	25.0%	envisioncambridgehousing.pdf (cambridgema.gov); pg 153				
Share of housing production that is dedicated as affordable, 2019–2031	3,125	25% of 2030 target growth of total Housing Units				
2030 SHI Goal	10,021	2020 SHI Unit + goal of new SHI units				
Target SHI as % of YRHU	15.2%					
If SHI units grow at the same rate as YRHU	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,					
Target 2030 new SHIUs	1724					
Target 2030 Total SHIUs	8,620					
Target SHI as % of YRHU	13.1%					
AHO Project Units in Pipeline	616					
Potential Rebuilt Aho Units	212					
Net AHO Project Units in Pipeline	404					
Chapter 40B Units at Rindge Commons I and II	101					
Inclusionary (unknown if these are already in SHI)	154					
Potential new SHIUs by 2030	659					
% of Envision Cambridge New SHIUs	21.1%					

# Perez, Lori

From:

madeleine clarke <madeleine.e.clarke@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, September 18, 2023 5:36 PM

To:

City Clerk

Subject:

testimony in support of policy order #159

hello, my name is madeleine and I am a community member in Cambridge and the Boston area. I'm here today once again to invite and encourage the City Council members to vote in favor of Policy order number 159, as it was originally written with no amendments, to oppose collaborations with or support of the so-called Public Safety Training Center in Atlanta.

I was here giving testimony last week and spoke about my fears of an increased militarization of police, especially in light of the murder of Arif Sayed Faisal by members of this city's police in January.

I want to emphasize again that the construction of Cop City *directly* impacts us as residents and community members in Cambridge. Beyond the deadly exchange of militarized police training that I've described, the impacts that deforestation like this will have on the climate are not contained to city or state boundary lines.

As a food producer and youth educator, I spend the majority of my time outdoors, and I have witnessed firsthand the deep, palpable joy of young people connecting with land, and all the potential for healing and empowerment and connection that can come for people, especially people from marginalized communities.

This forest is so special because everywhere we go, our access to green spaces is becoming more and more limited, especially in urban environments like Cambridge and Atlanta. I believe that we must view every forest as sacred to all of us, no matter where we are. When forests and other natural spaces are at risk, we all are at risk.

it is critical for the City Council members to hold steadfast to their stated progressive values and their stated commitments to the people of this city, and set an example for other progressive cities in the US and pass this policy order. Thank you for your time.