

CITY MANAGER'S CONSENT AGENDA FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of Thomas C. Makofske as the City's Director of Management Information Systems.
2. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the appropriation and authorization to borrow \$3,500,000 to fund the completion of the Fresh Pond Water Purification Plant.
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 00-80**, regarding a report on the possibility of on-line payment of parking tickets and ordering of parking permits.
4. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 00-107**, regarding a report on whether the City can require tow companies doing business with the City to accept credit cards in payment of fees incurred for retrieval of towed vehicles.
5. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to **Awaiting Report Item Number 00-103**, regarding a report on the accessibility of the City's website for individuals with disabilities.
6. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the appropriation of \$425,000 from the Mass Executive Office of Public Safety to the Grant Fund Police Department Salary & Wages (\$274,154), Other Ordinary Maintenance (\$122,696), and Travel & Training (\$28,150) to allow for enhance services to the community
7. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the appropriation of \$203,853 from the U.S. Dept. of Justice to the Grant Fund Police Department Other Ordinary Maintenance Account to provide funds to expand computer and MIS capabilities and for a third round of sub-grants for community partnerships to establish crime prevention programs.
8. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the appropriation of \$10,226.04 in the Grant Fund of the Fire Department

Salary & Wages (\$8,433) and Other Ordinary Maintenance (\$1,793.04) from the Mass. Executive Office of Public Safety to allow for the Student Awareness of Fire Education Program.

9. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to an order requesting the appropriation of \$345,000 to the Public Investment Fund Public Works Department Extraordinary Expenditures Account from Free Cash to provide funds for renovation work required at 238 Broadway and HVAC repairs and replacement at various City buildings.

MASSACHUSETTS

City Council Calendar No. 22 MONDAY November 20, 2000

At 5:30 P.M.

CHARTER RIGHT

1. Charter right exercised by Councillor Born on a petition received from Blaire Galinsky requesting a curb cut at the premises numbered 88-100 Elmwood Street.
2. Charter right exercised by Councillor Decker on an order introduced by Councillor Decker relative to placing a community bulletin board outside all elementary schools.
3. Charter right exercised by Councillor Decker on an order introduced by Councillor Decker requesting a report on transportation available to the elderly and disabled who rely on food pantries.
4. Charter right exercised by Councillor Toomey on an order introduced by Councillor Toomey requesting a report on providing a web site area where municipal office candidates can submit material for publication on the City's web site.
5. Charter right exercised by Councillor Toomey on an order introduced by Councillor Toomey requesting a report on the use of touch screen technology as a possible method of conducting elections in Cambridge.
6. Charter right exercised by Mayor Galluccio on an order introduced by Mayor Galluccio requesting a report on building a temporary skating rink at Cambridge Common this winter season.

7. Charter right exercised by Vice Mayor Maher on an order introduced by Vice Mayor Maher regarding a problem causing several street lights to not light up on Huron Avenue between Sparks Street and Huron Avenue.
8. Charter right exercised by Councillor Braude on an order introduced by Councillor Braude regarding an ordinance to prohibit the use of scooters in public buildings in Cambridge.
9. Charter right exercised by Vice Mayor Maher on an order introduced by Vice Mayor Maher regarding the installation of a flashing "School Zone" sign on Concord Avenue in the vicinity of St. Peter's School.
10. Chapter right exercised by Councillor Toomey on an order introduced by Councillor Toomey regarding the study of constructing a single facility used as a police station for each municipality along the Cambridge/Somerville line.
11. Charter right exercised by Mayor Galluccio on an order introduced by Councillor Sullivan and the entire membership regarding the Special City Council meeting between the City Council and the School Committee be held at the Main Library

ON THE TABLE

12. Consent Agenda #14 of 9/11/2000, relative to the Final Study Report for designating the Park House Hotel, 1-5 Cedar Square/39 Cedar Street/1-3 McLean Place, as a protected landmark.
13. Relative to the proposed new rezoning proposal for Riverside Neighborhood adjacent to Western Avenue.
14. Landmark Designation Study Report for Shady Hill Square, 1-11 Shady Hill Square and 36 Holden Street.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

16. Relative to considering an amendment to the Municipal Code of the City of Cambridge entitled "Historical Buildings and Landmarks" by inserting a subsection at the end of Section 2.78.050. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after December 20, 1999.
17. Proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinances to enable creation of a neighborhood preservation district in Harvard Square. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after November 6, 2000. The deadline for this petition is January 2, 2001.

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000

1. An application was received from K2 Café, requesting permission to erect a sandwich board in front of the premises numbered 290 Main Street, five days a week from 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
2. An application was received from Boston Chowda, requesting permission to erect a sandwich board in front of the premises numbered 36 JFK Garage Building, seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
3. An application was received from GAP & GAP KIDS, requesting permission to erect two projecting signs in front of the premises numbered 625 Massachusetts Avenue. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Community Development and abutters.
4. An application was received from GAP & GAP KIDS, requesting permission to erect three awnings in front of the premises numbered 625 Massachusetts Avenue. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Community Development and abutters.
5. An application was received from the Drama, Dance & Music Departments of Cambridge Rindge & Latin, requesting permission to hang a temporary banner across 795 Massachusetts Avenue.
6. An application was received from American Express Travel Services, requesting permission to replace two existing signs in front of the premises numbered 39-41 J.F.K.

Street. Approval has been received from Inspectional Services, Community Development and abutters.

7. Constable bond was received from John F. Conroy for approval of the surety.

CONSENT COMMUNICATIONS - CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000

1. A communication was received from Naggar Property, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 6 Essex Street
 - 8-12 Essex Street
 - 605 Mass Ave.
 - 599 Mass. Ave.
 - 533 Mass. Ave.
 - 67 Norfolk Street
 - 541-561 Mass. Ave.

2. A communication was received from Emile N. Dupont, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 67 Smith Place
 - 757R Concord Avenue.

3. A communication was received from Emile N. Dupont, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 472-476 Mass. Ave.

4. A communication was received from Elaine Cohen, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 711-727 Mass. Ave.

5. A communication was received from James B. Keegan President and CEO of Cambridgeport Bank, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 689 Mass. Ave.

6. A communication was received from Edward J. Lowney, for Meredith & Grew, Inc. ? Managing Agent for 99 Erie St. LLC transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 9-111 Erie Street
 - 202 Brookline Street
 - 206-208 Brookline Street.

7. A communication was received from Edward J. Lowney, for Meredith & Grew, Inc. ? Managing Agent for HFS Investments, L.C. transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 167 Sidney Street
 - 170-176 Sidney Street.

8. A communication was received from Edward J. Lowney, for Meredith & Grew, Inc. ? Managing Agent for the Trust Under the Will of Harry F. Stimpson transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 185 Albany Street
 - 189-197 Albany Street
 - 207 Albany Street
 - 156 Sidney Street
 - 153 Sidney Street
 - 135 Sidney Street
 - 57 Erie Street.

9. A communication was received from Ton Louie, Director of Mass. English Plus coalition transmitting support for a home rule petition allowing for non-citizen residents in Cambridge to vote in School Committee elections.
10. A communication was received from Carl F. Barron, President of the Central Square Business Association, transmitting appreciation for the resolution regarding the Central Square Holiday Lighting.
11. A communication was received from Dr. Carolyn R. Swift urging the approval of Central Square as the new location for the library.
12. A communication was received from Mary T. Milmore transmitting her opposition to the Condo Conversion Ordinance.
13. A communication was received from John M. Milmore transmitting his opposition to the Condo Conversion Ordinance.
14. A communication was received from Varney J. Hintlian, General Partner of 11 Hurley Street Associates, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 11 Hurley Street.
15. A communication was received from Varney J. Hintlian, General Partner of Tarvis Realty Trust, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 31-39 Hurley Street
 - 20-26 Spring Street.
16. A communication was received from Nancy M. True, Trustee of Tina South Realty Trust, transmitting written opposition to the Citywide Rezoning Petition; as owner of:
 - 127 Smith Place.

17. A communication was received from Karen Carmean, President, Cambridge Action Fund, Inc. transmitting information on the Cambridge-opoly.

RESOLUTION LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000

1. Happy Birthday to Mrs. Costello.
Councillor Sullivan
2. Best wishes to the guests participating in the Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Association (CYSCA).
Mayor Galluccio
3. Resolution on the death of Lillian B. Gaynor
**Councillor Sullivan, Mayor Galluccio,
Vice Mayor Maher and entire membership**
4. Resolution on the death of Olga Cupas.
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership
5. Resolution on the death of Vincent Greco.
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership
6. Resolution on the death of Owen F. Cunningham.
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership
7. Resolution on the death of Joseph W. McAuliffe.
**Vice Mayor Galluccio, Mayor Galluccio,
Councillor Sullivan and entire membership**
8. Resolution on the death of Daniel Albert Edge.
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership
9. Resolution on the death of John H. McMorrow.
**Councillor Sullivan, Vice Mayor Maher,
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership**

10. Resolution on the death of Thomas P. Burns.
**Mayor Galluccio, Vice Mayor Maher,
Councillor Sullivan and entire membership**
11. Resolution on the death of Lloyd S. McLeod.
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership
12. Resolution on the death of Edward Sawyer.
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership
13. Resolution on the death of Philip A. Mangone.
Councillor Toomey, Sullivan and entire membership
14. Congratulations to the Barbadian Community on the occasion of the 34th Anniversary of Independence.
Councillors Sullivan, Toomey and entire membership
15. Prepare a resolution congratulating all our newly elected officials.
Councillor Sullivan and entire membership
16. Congratulations to the Cambridge Historical Society on receiving the Commonwealth Award for 2000 in Memorial Hall, Harvard University, 45 Quincy Street at 4:00 p.m.
Councillors Sullivan, Toomey and entire membership
17. Congratulations to the new police officers who will be sworn in on November 20, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sullivan Chamber.
Councillor Sullivan and entire membership
18. Congratulations to Harvard and Suffolk University for the collaboration brought about by Jerome Lyle Rappaport Charitable Foundation.
Mayor Galluccio and Councillor Sullivan
19. The 13th Annual World Aids Day observed on December 1, 2000.
Mayor Galluccio

20. Resolution on the death of Miguel A. Bonet.
Councillor Toomey and entire membership
21. Resolution on the death of Edward Sullivan.
Councillor Toomey and entire membership
22. Resolution on the death of Francis J. Doyle.
Mayor Galluccio, Vice Mayor Maher and entire membership
23. Resolution on the death of Madelyn Ballou.
Mayor Galluccio and entire membership
24. Resolution on the death of Robert G. Dann.
Councillor Toomey and entire membership
25. Resolution on the death of William J. Connelly.
**Mayor Galluccio, Vice Mayor Maher,
Councillor Toomey and entire membership**
26. Congratulations to Cambridge Rindge and Latin Soccer Team on their victory.
Councillors Davis and Born
27. Acknowledgment and appreciation to the many contributions made by childfree Cantabrigians to the children of Cambridge.
Councillors Sullivan and Braude
28. Resolution on the retirement of Jeff Wolf, Legal Director of Community Legal Services and Counseling Center.
Councillor Decker
29. Welcome Maria Echaveste, White House Deputy Chief of Staff to Cambridge.
Councillor Reeves

30. Welcoming Tavis Smiley to Cambridge.

Councillor Reeves

31. Prepare three suitable resolutions welcoming three distinguished visitors to Cambridge.

Councillor Reeves

CONSENT ORDER LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000

1. Report on status of wheelchair accessibility at all polling places.

Councillor Toomey

2. A copy of the City Council Agenda be delivered to the Senior Center on the Friday before the City Council meetings.

Councillor Sullivan

3. Traffic enforcement at the pedestrian light on River Street and Memorial Drive.

Councillor Decker

4. Pedestrian safety at the corners of Western Avenue and River Street along Pleasant Street.

Councillor Decker

5. Report on services for seniors in need of minor home repairs.

Councillor Decker

6. Pedestrian traffic concerns at the corner of Brookline Street and Putnam Avenue.

Councillor Decker

7. Government Operations, Rules and Claims Committee hold a hearing on residents' claims against the city 30 days after a report is made from the Law Department.

Councillors Decker and Braude

8. Report on the cost of making the Main Public Library meet building code and ADA requirements for an alternative use.

Councillor Sullivan

9. Conduct a pedestrian safety study along Meacham Road.
Councillor Decker
10. Improve pedestrian safety at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Pleasant Street.
Vice Mayor Maher
11. Repair the sidewalks at 830 Massachusetts Avenue.
Vice Mayor Maher
12. Investigate Ravoli Construction for violation of the Responsible Employer Ordinance.
Councillor Sullivan
13. Committee in Human Services conduct a public meeting to discuss the implementation and eligibility guidelines of the School Lunch Program.
Vice Mayor Maher
14. Superior Court ruling that the City cannot continue to provide health care benefits to some of City employees and that the City provide COBRA benefits for them.
Mayor Galluccio
15. Report on traffic calming improvements along Concord Avenue in area near the intersection of Concord Avenue and Fayerweather Street.
Mayor Galluccio
16. Funds to hold a reception to recognize citizen volunteers on the City's Boards and Commissions.
Mayor Galluccio
17. CRLS Music room status during library expansion.
Councillors Born, Davis, Braude and Decker
18. Report on how to help increase opportunities to showcase artists of Cambridge.
Councillor Decker

19. Report on the cost differential at potential Central Library site and proposed library expansion.

Councillors Decker, Braude, Born and Davis

20. Visiting Nurses Association policy that prohibits home healthcare aides from using keys to gain access to clients' homes

Councillor Toomey

21. Allocation for a planning study for Riverside.

Councillor Reeves

22. Report on the supervisory role of the Police Review and Advisory Board.

Councillor Reeves

23. Information regarding the Citywide Rezoning Petition at continued hearings.

Councillors Sullivan, Born and Vice Mayor Maher

O-1.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to contact the Election Commission and report back to the City Council on the status of wheelchair accessibility at all polling places.

O-2.

November 6, 2000

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to take the appropriate steps to ensure that a copy of the City Council Agenda is delivered to the Senior Center on the Friday before each City Council meeting.

O-3.

November 6, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: There seems to be a significant concern from the elderly and people crossing the street with young children to get to Riverside Press Park; and

WHEREAS: Cars still fly over the bridge; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Traffic, Parking and Transportation Director to consider placing a light on River Street and Memorial Drive that indicates the seconds left to cross; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consider placing these lights at all crossings near playgrounds with heavy vehicular traffic.

O-4.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: Pedestrian safety at the corners of Western Avenue and River Street along Pleasant Street is at risk due to no traffic guards in this area; and

WHEREAS: Many children cross these intersections on their way to the Graham and Parks and the Cambridgeport Schools; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to assign the Traffic guards to these dangerous intersections.

O-5.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report on the services for seniors who are in need of minor home repair jobs. Given the booming economy, it is difficult to find contractors who will commit to small repair jobs; and be it further

ORDERED: That there be a list of contractors who would be willing to perform minor house repairs at a reduced rate for low and moderate income seniors; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to explore what resources the city has to help assist seniors in need of minor home repairs.

O-6.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: Vehicular traffic at the corner of Brookline Street and Putnam Avenue is unsafe for pedestrians due to left hand turns onto Brookline Street; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to take appropriate steps to insure pedestrian safety in this area.

O-7.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

COUNCILLOR BRAUDE

ORDERED: That the City Council Government Operations, Rules and Claims Committee hold a hearing on residential claims against the city thirty days after a report and/or investigation has been made by the Law Department.

O-8.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

WHEREAS: There have been a number of formulations raised relative to lessening the gap between the two library proposed sites; and

WHEREAS: A number of permutations include establishing a branch library at the present site of the current main library, thus placing the new main library and new branch library in the same neighborhood; and

WHEREAS: Any other uses, including the above mentioned branch, of the current main library site would require extensive work and rehabilitation, including but not limited to bringing said building up to code and in compliance with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That said estimates to bring the Main Library into compliance with the building code be provided to the City Council before its meeting on December 11, 2000.

O-9.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to conduct a pedestrian safety study along Meacham Road.

O-10.

November 20, 2000

VICE MAYOR MAHER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to take steps to improve pedestrian safety at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Pleasant Street.

O-11.

November 20, 2000

VICE MAYOR MAHER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Acting Commissioner of Public Works to repair the sidewalks at the premises numbered 830 Massachusetts Avenue.

O-12.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

ORDERED: That the attached letter from the New England Regional Council of Carpenters and the Massachusetts Pile Drivers Local Union #56 requesting that the City terminate its contract with Revoli Construction for violation of the Responsible Employer Ordinance be referred to the City Manager for investigation and action; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter.

O-13.

November 20, 2000

VICE MAYOR MAHER

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the City Council that new and humiliating distinctions are being made in the lunch lines at schools based on eligibility for free and reduced lunch; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council committee on Human Services be and hereby is requested to conduct a public meeting to discuss the implementation and eligibility guidelines of the School Lunch Program; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to invite the Assistant City Manager for Human Services, the Superintendent of Schools and all appropriate School Department staff to this meeting.

O-14.

November 20, 2000

MAYOR GALLUCCIO

WHEREAS: On November 1, 2000 the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ruled that the City cannot continue to provide health care benefits to the families of some City employees; and

WHEREAS: The Court gave the City a ninety day transition period before these benefits would be terminated; and

WHEREAS: The City Manager has suggested that the Courts have taken no formal position on the provision of COBRA benefits to the members of these families of City employees who will lose health care benefits as of January 31, 2001; and

WHEREAS: This City Council has repeatedly supported the provision of adequate health care benefits to all City employees and their families; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That this City Council urge all relevant City departments to make every effort to obtain approval to provide COBRA benefits for the families of City employees who will lose health care benefits as a result of the recent Court ruling and that the City Manager report back to this City Council by December 11, 2001; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager update this City Council on all matters pertaining to the continued provision of health care benefits to the families of City Workers who will be affected by the recent Court ruling and that the City Manager recommend, if necessary, an Executive Session to discuss legal actions regarding the November 1 ruling and the provision of COBRA benefits.

O-15.

November 20, 2000

MAYOR GALLUCCIO

WHEREAS: Residents of the Armory area on Concord Avenue and in the area of the intersection of Concord and Fayerweather have been greatly affected by the improvement work being done on Fresh Pond Parkway; and

WHEREAS: The City has implemented temporary measures to change traffic patterns along Concord Avenue in the Armory area and around the intersection of Concord and Fayerweather; and

WHEREAS: The City has conducted meetings in the past where permanent traffic calming measures such as bump-outs were discussed for installation in the Armory area along Concord Avenue and near the intersection of Concord and Fayerweather; now therefor be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Director of Traffic, Parking and Transportation to identify permanent traffic calming measures along Concord Avenue in the Armory area and near the intersection of Concord and Fayerweather; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to this City Council by December 11, 2000 with specific actions and timelines for traffic calming improvements along Concord Avenue in the Armory area and near the intersection of Concord and Fayerweather.

O-16.

November 20, 2000

MAYOR GALLUCCIO

WHEREAS: Many of our citizens volunteer their time by serving on Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS: The work of these citizen volunteers is of major importance to the work of this City and often goes unappreciated; and

WHEREAS: This City Council believes that those citizens who volunteer their time and effort on these Boards and Commission deserve the support of the community and an acknowledgement of appreciation for their work; now therefor be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to coordinate and recommend funds for the purpose of holding a reception to recognize and appreciate the work of the citizen volunteers on the City's many Boards and Commissions; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to this City Council no later than December 11, 2000 on efforts to coordinate and fund this reception.

O-17.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR BORN

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

COUNCILLOR BRAUDE

COUNCILLOR DECKER

ORDERED: That prior to the December 11, 2000 City Council meeting, the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide the following:

How will the CRLS Music Practice rooms currently located in the area for the library expansion be relocated to accommodate the site plan currently proposed for the new library:

If the CRLS Music rooms are not relocated and the proposed site plan is modified to accommodate the presence of the music room, how will this affect the number of underground parking spaces in the library plan, and how will this affect the amount of open space which is eliminated by the construction of a new library?

Are there any hazardous materials present in the existing library and what measures will be taken to insure public safety, especially of CRLS students, during construction, in particular, has the cost of tenting or other containment been included in the cost estimates for the two sites and was the cost estimator apprised of the fact that a 1800-student high school was located adjacent to the site for the new library?

Are there any meets and bounds delineating city and school department property on the CRLS campus?

O-18.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

ORDERED:: That the City Manager be and hereby requested to report on how to help increase opportunities to showcase the artists of Cambridge, including allowing artist and craftspeople to participate in farmers' markets and developing a mechanism for art works in prominent public places such as the Cambridge Common.

O-19.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR DECKER

COUNCILLOR BRAUDE

COUNCILLOR BORN

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report to the City Council on the cost differential at the potential Central Square and the proposed library expansion at the current site for the following:

The rent absorbed by the Community Learning Center if it were housed in the new expanded library.

The cost to the city for the open space replacement if the library is expanded on the current site.

The cost absorbed/saved with the closing of the central square library branch.

Underground costs associated with the current site if expanded.

The cost differential for the contingency fee for both sites.

The cost associated with the adverse impacts of the high school music room located underground if the library were to expand at its current site

Savings in construction and parking if the additional parking needed on the prospect street site were all built under the proposed new library instead of building/replacing parking in the lot across from the potential site.

What is the annual cost of debt service for each.

What is the proposed library site.

O-20.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of this Council that the Cambridge Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) has begun to enforce a policy that prohibits home healthcare aides from using keys to gain access to clients homes; and

WHEREAS: The enforcement of this policy has resulted in considerable strain to both the clients of the Cambridge VNA and their families; and

WHEREAS: In some cases where clients are unable to let their home healthcare aides into their apartments, they face a reduction in services; and

WHEREAS: This reduction in service may result in clients being forced from their homes and into residential care facilities to maintain the level of service they require; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Cambridge Visiting Nurses Association with a view in mind to review this policy and to take all necessary steps to prevent any reduction of services to their most needy clients; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Cambridge Visiting Nurses Association for their immediate review.

O-21.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR REEVES

WHEREAS: On October 16, 2000, the Cambridge City Council voted unanimously to request the City Manager to recommend the allocation of \$200,000 - \$250,000 for a planning study for Riverside; and

WHEREAS: A recent letter from the City Manager indicates that \$100,000 of already appropriated Community Development Department funds will be earmarked for a Community Development Riverside Study Group to be appropriated by the City Manager; and

WHEREAS: The newly forming Riverside Neighborhood Association had the understanding that it would play, with consultation assistance, the central role in the planning study; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to clarify the use of \$100,000 of funds previously allocated to Community Development Department when the City Council order requested a recommendation for a \$200,000 - \$250,000 new appropriation; and further be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with Community Development Department to specify the key role that the newly-forming neighborhood association will play in a Riverside study plan for which the City Council has requested the new appropriation by unanimous vote.

O-22.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR REEVES

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council to clarify the supervisory role of the Police Review and Advisory Board (PRAB) with respect to the day-to-day activities of the executive director of the PRAB.

O-23.

November 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

COUNCILLOR BORN

VICE MAYOR MAHER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager of Community Development to provide the Ordinance Committee with the following information regarding the Citywide Rezoning Petition for consideration at the continuing hearings on the petition:

What, if any possible intended consequences of the proposed zoning changes have come to the staff's attention during recent discussions, workshops and hearings on the Citywide Rezoning Petition?

What areas of East Cambridge within the study area of the ongoing planning effort are also included in proposals of the Citywide Rezoning Petitions; and why?

Why does the petition propose rezoning the portion of Concord Avenue recently rezoned by the Tennis Petition?

Does the proposed rezoning of certain commercial districts to residential districts foreclose reasonable and rational growth by the current business? Could the amendment provide for phasing in the change to residential only over two to three years?

COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair of the Health and Environment Committee for a meeting held on October 10, 2000 regarding the conference of the International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (I.C.L.E.I.).
2. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, Deputy City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair of the Economic Development, Training and Employment Committee for a meeting held on October 27, 2000 to continue discussion on employment issues relating to career placement agencies and to plan an agenda for the committee.
3. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor David Maher and Councillor Kathleen L. Born, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee for a meeting held on October 18, 2000 regarding the continuing discussion about a proposed ordinance to provide additional protection for tenants in buildings being converted to condominiums.

In City Council November 20, 2000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair
Councillor Marjorie C. Decker
Vice Mayor David P. Maher*

The Economic Development, Training and Employment Committee conducted a public meeting on Friday, October 27, 2000 at twelve o'clock and ten minutes p.m. in the Sullivan Chamber.

The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussion on employment issues as they relate to career placement agencies, to plan an agenda and any other matter which comes before the committee.

Present at the meeting were Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair of the Committee; Vice Mayor Maher, Councillor Sullivan, Councillor Decker, Ellen Semonoff, Deputy Director of Human Services, Susan Mintz, Office of Workforce Development, Susan Walsh, Office of Workforce Development, Malaina Bowker, Deputy Director of Community Development, Elaine Madden, Project Planner, Community Development Department, Jason Marshall, Project Manager, Assistant to the mayor and Donna P. Lopez, Deputy City Clerk.

Councillor Davis convened the meeting.

Ms. Semonoff, Deputy Director of Human Services, stated that the staff was ready to report on the four topics from the last meeting as follows:

- To provide an update on the top 25 employers in the city;
- To provide update on the labor market survey;
- To discuss services provided by career source; and
- To discuss the program at Bunker Hill College.

The discussion proceeded on the top 25 employers in the city. Ms. Bowker, Deputy Director of Community Development, distributed a list of the top 25 Cambridge Employers which is attached as **ATTACHMENT A**.

Councillor Davis asked about a link to the top 25 employers. Ms. Bowker informed the committee that Community Development will be contacting the top 25 employers to provide a link to the employers web page. This could be completed in a month and then will be attached to the city's web site under the Resources heading. Councillor Davis asked how many Cambridge residents are employed by these employers. Ms. Bowker responded that this information was not requested from the employers. Councillor Davis asked if this information can be secured. Ms. Bowker stated that the focus has been on getting the labor market survey mailed which will take place next week. Ms. Semonoff stated that the employers may not provide the information on residency of their employees, especially when company's home offices are not located in Cambridge. Councillor Davis commended the staff for the list of the 25 top employers in Cambridge. She also requested that the staff investigate the best place to link this information to the City Page. Mr. Jason Marshall, Project Manager, Assistant to the Mayor, stated this information could be on the City Council and/or City Manager page. This way the city can see how many hits this site received for this information. Ms. Madden, Project Planner, Community Development Department, stated that the city could have multiple links.

Councillor Davis suggested that a press release could be done by the Public Information Officer to get the word out about the links. When this service is up and running, the city could share this information with the companies about how many hits were made to the site. If it can be shown that this service is financially beneficial to the companies and the city has taken the initiative to provide the service this could foster a partnership connection, she said. Ms. Madden stated that if employers ask their employees what were their resources and the city's Home Page is the resource, this could be a good alliance.

Councillor Davis asked if the committee felt it was a good idea to bring representatives from these businesses to the committee meetings. Mr. Marshall stated that if the 25 top employers were brought to the meetings, a partnership will be fostered and these businesses will bring in other resources. Ms. Susan Mintz stated that when the employers see that there is a benefit to them, they will participate.

Councillor Davis expressed an interest to do a letter to thank companies. She felt it would be a good idea to have 1-2 representatives from the businesses to meet with the committee. It was agreed that the results of the labor market survey would be received first and then representatives from business will be invited to the meeting.

Mr. Marshall suggested that it would be helpful to list the Career Source and/or resources at the top of the link page and then list the employers/companies.

Councillor Davis asked if the city's MIS office should be included. Ms. Bowker stated that she will be meeting with MIS.

Again, Councillor Davis stated that she wanted the service of the links publicized. Ms. Mintz stated that if a press release is done by the Public Information Officer this will inform the employers of what services are available in the city.

Councillor Davis again expressed an interest to have representatives of businesses join this committee. She suggested that this is one way the city is trying to help businesses. Ms. Walsh, Workforce Development Office, stated that the business community might not view this as a huge gesture. Mr. Marshall suggested that it would be better to wait for the results of the survey. Ms. Bowker stated that she did not want to detract from the survey. Ms. Semonoff suggested meeting with business representatives in a couple of months.

Councillor Davis asked when the links will be ready. Ms. Bowker responded that she was optimistic that it might be ready in a month.

Councillor Davis stated that she and the Mayor could send a letter to the top 25 employers informing the employers that the committee is trying to make the links and we are hopeful that all of the top 25 employers will join this effort.

The discussion turned to Labor Market Survey. Ms. Bowker stated that 1,800 surveys are being sent to emerging companies via a letter from the City Manager. The Chamber of Commerce, she said, has offered to do follow-up calls. Councillor Davis asked how many responses are expected. Ms. Bowker responded 300. Councillor Davis asked to have the Labor Market Survey attached to this report, **ATTACHMENT B**.

Councillor Sullivan asked how is the city connecting to new employers who do not require advanced degrees with employees. Councillor Davis stated this is the goal of the committee. Ms. Bowker stated that Labor Market Survey is for new industries such as health and science, biotech industry, computer information industry and general business. The survey asks the type of jobs, skill required, if training was done in-house and where does the company expect to see job growth.

Vice Mayor Maher informed the committee that he met a business owner and told him about the links to the top 25 employers. The business owner was very excited about this service. His company employs 300 employees and cannot find entry/moderate level employees. His company provides in-house training, he said. He stated that this business owner would be interested to come and talk with this committee. This is a young company that is taking young people and shaping them, he said. Ms. Semonoff stated that most businesses in the city are small companies.

The committee proceeded to the discussion of Career Source.

Ms. Mintz gave an overview on Career Source. The state, she said, went to a one-stop shopping for workforce development. A series of services can be obtained; however, these sources depend on what are the applicant needs. Career Source offers core services such as job information and posting and training programs. Resume development is considered an enhanced service and a fee is charged for this service.

Vice Mayor Maher asked if appointments are required. Ms. Mintz responded that orientation is done first, but then appointments are required.

Ms. Semonoff asked Ms. Mintz if there are group services available without a fee. Ms. Mintz responded in the affirmative. The Department of Employment Training (DET) model is followed. Services provided by DET are provided by Career Source.

Councillor Decker asked if the fee charged allows an applicant to get expert help to prepare a resume that takes in the persons skill level so that the person can get an appropriate job. Ms. Mintz responded in the affirmative. She further stated that there is an additional service of a resource room available without charge to do your own resume. One staff person staffs the resource room. Councillor Decker stated that it takes creative expertise to translate skills into a resume for people to get a job. A level of sensitivity is also required. Ms. Mintz stated that Career Source has two customers - the job seeker and the business owner. Business services are available. Job postings can be dropped

off at Career Source. Job Fairs are also conducted. Councillor Decker asked for information, in writing, about the funding of Career Source and what is the expectation of their work. Ms. Semonoff stated that city money is not used.

Councillor Davis asked how should this committee have a meeting with Career Source. Should the committee go to Career Source for the next meeting. The committee all agreed that the next meeting would be held at Career Source. Ms. Semonoff stated it is important to have a good understanding of what exists, what is missing and what could be done better. The city is fortunate that Career Source is physically located in Cambridge, she said.

Councillor Davis asked what are the gaps and what services are Career Source not providing. Ms. Mintz responded that the focus is on Cambridge residents and Cambridge jobs. We could work with Career Source to form a partnership to focus on Cambridge residents as a priority.

Councillor Decker asked why aren't Cambridge residents being sent to the Office of Workforce Development instead of Career Source. Ms. Mintz responded that Career Source has a larger applicant pool.

Councillor Davis stated that the benefit to employers to forming a partnership is to maximize Cambridge employees to get a credit under the Parking and Transportation Demand Management Ordinance (PTDM).

Vice Mayor Maher asked what was the gross differential between Career Source and another employment agency. Ms. Mintz did not know this information. Vice

Mayor Maher stated the committee needs to know this information. He further stated headhunters are doing specialized business today. Can Career Source provide this level of expertise or is it entry level only. Ms. Mintz stated it is the goal to provide the level of expertise.

Ms. Semonoff stated that the Office of Workforce Development serve some applicants better than Career Source. Career Source needs to do a better job with its client base.

Councillor Davis asked what is the next step. Ms. Semonoff stated that the committee should hear from Career Source and then talk to employers about Career Source services. Ms. Mintz will contact a representative of Career Source and the next meeting will be scheduled for a Tuesday at noon. (Tentative dates discussed were November 14 and November 28) at Career Source.

The committee decided to postpone discussion on the program at Bunker Hill until Tuesday, December 12, 2000 at noon at which time the committee will receive an update on the links to the top 25 Cambridge employers.

Councillor Davis thanked all attendees.

The meeting adjourned at one o'clock and thirty-five minutes p.m.

For the Committee,

Councillor Henrietta Davis

Chair

In City Council November 20, 2000

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Councillor Kathleen L. Born, Co-Chair

Vice Mayor David P. Maher, Co-Chair

Councillor Jim Braude

Councillor Henrietta Davis

Councillor Marjorie C. Decker

Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves

Councillor Michael A. Sullivan

Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.

Mayor Anthony D. Galluccio

The Ordinance Committee held a public meeting on October 18, 2000, beginning at 4:40 p.m. in the Sullivan Chamber for the purpose of continuing discussion about a proposed ordinance to provide additional protection for tenants in buildings being converted to condominiums.

Present at the meeting were Vice Mayor David Maher and Councillor Kathleen L. Born, Co-Chairs of the Committee, Councillor Jim Braude, Councillor Henrietta Davis, Councillor Marjorie C. Decker, Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves, Councillor Michael A. Sullivan, Councillor Timothy J. Toomey and City Clerk D. Margaret Drury. Also present were Vali Buland, Legal Counsel for the City of Cambridge and John Woods, Housing Division, Community Development Department.

Councillor Born convened the hearing and explained the purpose. She invited a presentation from the proponents.

Dean Johnson, 30 Agassiz Street, began the presentation on behalf of the Laity and Clergy for Affordable Housing and the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization. He emphasized the housing crisis in Cambridge. The current state law provides protections for existing state law, but they are not well enforced. The biggest advantage to the proposed ordinance is local enforcement. In addition, the proposal strengthens the protections where needed.

Ellen Schacter, Cambridge resident and attorney for the Eviction Free Zone, urged members of the committee to voice any concerns about the draft ordinance to enable the issues to be addressed. She noted two important features:

1. The ordinance gives the tenants time; and
2. The ordinance gives the city a right of first refusal to acquire units at market rate to maintain them as affordable housing.

The bill adds no rent protection; nor is it a bill that discourages home ownership. Attorney Schacter then outlined the differences between the proposed ordinance and the current state law. (Attachment A.) She noted that there is room for discussion about the provision that includes rent increases of over 10% as evidence for intention to convert.

Councillor Born then invited a presentation from the opponents.

Skip Schloming, 102 Inman Street, spoke on behalf of the Small Property Owners Association and submitted his testimony in writing (Attachment B). He disagreed with Attorney Schacter's summary of the differences between the state law and the present proposal. The restrictions are so harsh that the proposal is essentially a ban on condo

conversion and will drive up the costs of condominiums past what a working family in Cambridge can afford. Penalties for violation are greater than what the present state law provides. The proposal contains a presumption that a rent increase over the cost of inflation is an intent to convert. The proposal goes in the exact opposite direction from that advocated in Cardinal Law's recent report, which recognized that regulations and restrictions all increase the cost of rental housing and thus rents.

Councillor Born invited questions and comments from members of the committee.

Councillor Decker asked if the ordinance prevents condo conversion. Attorney Schacter answered in the negative. The city must issue a permit if the owner has complied with the law.

Councillor Decker then asked what the penalties are under state law. Attorney Schacter said they are meant to be the same penalties as the current state law provides. If there is a difference, the proponents are willing to discuss changes in the proposal.

Councillor Decker said that she has received e-mail from owners who believe this is an outright ban on condo conversion. Skip Schloming stated that the proposed ordinance is a "constructive ban."

Councillor Decker asked what provisions the opponents object to. Mr. Schloming listed the following:

1. Any rent increase over 10% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less, can be evidence of an intent to convert.
2. The ordinance establishes an administrative agency to review any tenant complaint of illegal conversion.
3. The ordinance has ten notice requirements and twenty times the penalties of the state law.

Councillor Decker noted that there are points of agreement - all agree that the state law is important.

Councillor Decker requested that Mr. Schloming provide a written description of where in the ordinance the ten required notices are set out.

Attorney Schacter said that her clients are willing to sit down and have good faith discussions about these issues but they are not willing to waste their time if the opponents intend to oppose any ordinance.

Councillor Born asked Attorney Buland to comment on the differences between the state law and this proposal. Attorney Vali Buland said that the CASL comparison of the differences between the state statute and the proposed ordinance are accurate. However, she noted that the permit system does not exist at all in state law.

Councillor Decker asked what access tenants have to legal representation to enforce the state law rights. Attorney Schacter said that most people in the community have no knowledge that these protections exist. Also, 95% of tenants go to court without representation. The law is so complicated that without an administrative body to assist them to understand, it is very difficult for tenants to utilize the protections of the law.

Mr. Schloming said that he agrees that there is a great need for education of landlords and tenants of what the law requires. He said that the state law sets the burden of proof as preponderance of evidence. However, the proposed ordinance shifts the burden by creating a presumption of intention to convert if there is a rent increase of more than 10%. Attorney Schacter disagreed with Mr. Schloming's interpretation.

Councillor Decker stated that she is convinced that there is a possibility for an agreement on this ordinance. Both sides support the state law. The opponents have stated that several of the changes made by the ordinance are acceptable, for example, decreasing the age of where senior protection begins, including mental disabilities among the list of disabilities that can qualify a tenant for more protection, and increasing the amount of moving and relocation expenses. She also noted the problems with the court system, especially the backlog and lack of

representation for lower income people. She said that we all have a local responsibility to preserve the community. She urged continued discussion without inflammatory language.

Councillor Davis said the amount of ignorance about state law is staggering. She urged the Co-Chairs to move beyond presentations to working meetings. She also noted her concern with the administrative structure set up in the ordinance. The City Manager has expressed doubts that the City can administer the ordinance as proposed.

Councillor Davis also expressed her concern with moving to regulate three family buildings which were not regulated under rent control. At the very best, owners of these properties would need to be informed. She urged SPOA to not exaggerate, use inflammatory language or create unnecessary fear.

Skip Schloming said that he is willing to sit down for a rational discussion any time.

Councillor Reeves said that he is more than aware of the numbers of people who have been frightened by SPOA's claims about the proposed ordinance, and the number of people who have been forced out of Cambridge. He said that he is ready for a new conversation in a rational way. He said that he implores the advocates to involve City Councillors to try to reach more agreement.

Councillor Braude asked whether SPOA would support the proposal or be neutral if X, Y and Z are accommodated.

Mr. Schloming said that if his concerns are addressed, he would support the proposal.

Councillor Born moved to public comment.

Bob Tobin, Christ Church, stated that he is a founder and the Chair of Laity and Clergy for Affordable Housing and a member of GBIO task force. He said that he is encouraged by the testimony that there is hope for achieving meaningful protections. He urged support for the ordinance.

Rodney Farnsworth, 590 Putnam Avenue, stated that he is terrified by the proposal. It is much worse than rent control. It covers three family buildings. He said that the city and tenants can buy at market rate any time. They just need to look at the MLS listings. They really want to buy these properties at below-market prices. He also said that he has no problem with a 10% cap on rent increases but the proposal should not be complicated by a CPI clause, etc. The problem with the state law is that it is very complicated and hard to understand. Fix the state law.

Louise Dunlop, 24 McTiernan Street, stated that she is a homeowner, as part of a limited equity cooperative. She expressed her distress at the amount of fear. In the five years this ordinance has been pending, the cost of housing has gone up 50%. She urged the committee to work as quickly as possible. On behalf of the Eviction Free Zone, she expressed willingness to sit down and talk about possible changes.

Dori Kalthoper, 19 Norman Street, said that tenants and the city need time to see if they can find financing to buy the units. She also suggested condensing the number of notices.

Kevin Bradley, 324 Franklin Street, member of the Eviction Fee Zone, stated that as a tenant he has found the property owners' testimony insulting.

Washington Taylor, 7 R.C. Kelly Street, stated that he has been a resident for thirty years and is a homeowner. He expressed his strong support of the proposed ordinance.

Alex Steinbergh, 3 Clinton Street, 30-year resident of Cambridge, a property owner, stated that he has a problem with this ordinance and also has a problem with the state law. The primary failure of this ordinance is the permit system. It will cause as much harm as the Rent Control Act. It has aspects of rent control and eviction control. The ordinance provides that the Community Development Department can intervene in nonpayment cases. He said that

the he would personally prefer an outright condo ban. The city does not have a good track record for regulating property owners. From 1970 to 1994, property owners had no rights.

Mary Leno, 55 Magazine Street, stated that she would like to see a ban on condo conversions. She lives with fear and uncertainty.

Dave Slaney, 237 Norfolk Street, wished that the City Council well in coming up with a consensus. City government should be judged by how it comes to the aid of the most needy, powerless and vulnerable. It is very difficult for tenants to stay in Cambridge in the present real estate market.

Lee Ferris, 269 Norfolk Street, spoke in support of the ordinance. She owns a two-family house and is not afraid of this ordinance. Cambridge needs stability in housing. If you have to choose between tenants and more powerful interests, you have to come down on the side of the tenants.

Councillor Born stated that she and Vice Mayor Maher would like to meet less formally with opponents and proponents to see if more agreement is possible. She summarized the differences she has noted:

1. 10% rent increase as intent to condo conversion;
2. Covering three unit buildings; and
3. Concerns about the permitting process, the ten notifications, the bureaucratic structure.

Vice Mayor Maher thanked all those present for their attendance and participation.

Vice Mayor Maher moved referral of the ordinance to the full City Council while keeping the issue in committee for more discussion if necessary.

The motion passed on a voice vote without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

For the Committee,

Vice Mayor David Maher
Co-Chair

Councillor Kathleen L. Born
Co-Chair

001018.OrdinanceCommitteeReport

In City Council November 20, 2000

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair
Councillor Kathleen L. Born
Councillor Jim Braude

The Health and Environment Committee held a public meeting on October 10, 2000, beginning at 8:45 A.M. in the Sullivan Chamber for the purpose of receiving a report from Councillor Henrietta Davis on the conference of the International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (I.C.L.E.I.) attended by her and John Bolduc, Environmental Planner, Community Development Department (CDD).

Present at the hearing were Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair of the Committee, Councillor Kathleen L. Born, Councillor Jim Braude and City Clerk D. Margaret Drury. Also present were Catherine Preston, CDD, Kathy Watkins, Department of Traffic, Parking and Transportation (TPT), Rick Leandro, Department of Public Works (DPW), Sam Corda, Director of the Water Department, George Fernandes, City Electrician, Tomoko Senida, Intern, DPW, Rosalie Anders, Environmental Planner, CDD, Susan Clippinger, Executive Director, TPT, Richard Rossi, Deputy City Manager, Lisa Peterson, Assistant to the City Manager, Cara Seiderman, CDD, James Rita, Buildings Operations Manager for the School Department..

Councillor Davis convened the hearing and explained the purpose.

She requested that all present introduce themselves. Councillor Davis explained that for the past year Cambridge has been a member of International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (I.C.L.E.I.). Seventy eight cities are members. She and John Bolduc just attended the I.C.L.E.I. conference in New Orleans. Cambridge was honored at the conference for its local environmental emissions audit. She noted the audit finding that 65% of Cambridge emissions come from the commercial section.

Councillor Davis and John Bolduc reported on the discussion of global warming. In the last two years, some major companies in have come to agree that there is a problem with respect to global warming. Discussion centers on what to do about it.

Councillor Davis reported that the theme of the conference was that local initiatives can make a difference with regard to climate change. She then described some conference highlights including the following:

Background information on greenhouse gases: she said that there are disparate views regarding which are the most important to pay attention to, but carbon dioxide and methane top the list.

A streetlight walk: New Orleans is using new low energy light bulb for its streets.

Transportation: Cambridge is doing a lot more than many communities though the Parking and Transportation Demand Management Ordinance. One concept is

that employers can pay employees not to drive. Councillor Braude asked what are the incentives to employees. Catherine Preston said that in Cambridge employers are required by PTDM to take measures to decrease employees' need to drive to work; nationally there are federal tax incentives.

Councillor Davis then reported on a conference presentation by David Gardner, White House Energy Staff. Mr. Gardner described how some communities are "greening their fleets."

Councillor Davis informed the committee that she has several council orders to submit regarding these matters. She then invited John Bolduc to report on the conference.

Mr. Bolduc began with Cambridge's prior involvement with I.C.L.E.I. Cambridge was one of the four I.C.L.E.I. participants in Massachusetts. Now eight Massachusetts communities are participating. The I.C.L.E.I. process begins with an audit, an inventory of existing emissions. The community sets emission reduction targets and develops a local action plan, implements it and then monitors and evaluates. Cambridge has completed the first step – the inventory. The City Manager has approved a nineteen member citizen advisory committee (Attachment) to work on the next step. With regard to building energy use emissions, the audit found that in Cambridge 65% of emissions comes from commercial building energy use. This includes universities. Arlington is just the opposite; over 60% is from residential buildings.

Councillor Davis asked what percentage of the commercial building energy emissions comes from the universities and the hospital. Mr. Bolduc replied that as of now we do not know. He said that Harvard has hired their own energy and emissions expert and they are doing their own audit in a program called "Greening the Crimson" and will get data. MIT is not actually doing an inventory. Mr. Bolduc said that subcommittees on the task force are meeting monthly. They have established land use, planning and outreach subcommittees.

The task force has established guiding principles in selecting priorities for action.

- "Low hanging fruit": getting the most return for energy expended
- Multiple benefits
- Involving the entire community
- Cost effectiveness

Mr. Bolduc noted that the first step of identifying actions is taking stock of what Cambridge has already done. He listed the following completed and/or ongoing actions:

- The City Council enacted PTDM Ordinance, which will reduce an estimated 332 tons of carbon dioxide per year.
- The Transportation, Parking and Traffic Department has purchased two electric vehicles which will result in a reduction of two tons of carbon dioxide per year.
- Cambridge has been using "green lighting" since 1997 which has reduced 265 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.
- The Richdale Avenue Housing project has some energy saving features.
- The Porter Square Shopping Center utilizes solar panels and a gray water recovery system.
- The Union of Concerned Scientists building at 2 Brattle Square also has incorporated energy reduction technology.
- The Zip Car project, a car sharing effort, is an energy emissions reduction innovation.

Councillor Braude asked if the city gets reports back in exchange for the parking space it has donated to the Zip Car project. Ms. Clippinger answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Bolduc reported that the task force also plans evaluations of other possible actions, such as adopting L.E.A.D., the "silver standard" for new buildings in green building evaluations, and increasing public participation in utility energy conservation programs.

Councillor Braude asked if there are any studies of the impact of deregulation this issue, and Mr. Bolduc said that he does not know. He said that he wants to spend time looking at what "green power" purchasing initiatives are possible for Cambridge.

Deputy City Manager Richard Rossi reported on the reduction of solid waste from 45,000 to 26,000 since recycling. He added that water consumption is also down from 20 million gallons to 14 ½ million gallons per day. Also the new water facility will reduce energy use by the electric pump.

Councillor Davis noticed the importance of pooling information about all of the different energy efficiency programs.

Councillor Braude asked why there has been a water use reduction. Mr. Rossi responded that water conservation has increased because the block rate structure for billings has provided real incentives.

Councillor Born noted that the Boston Society of Architects has a Green Committee which is chaired by Dean Rykerson, a Cambridge architect. She said that this topic should be discussed with architects at design selection interviews. The topic is very mainstream now. Councillor Born cautioned, however, that the sick buildings which are creating health problems now resulted from the energy conservation efforts 20 years ago.

John Bolduc noted the "Green Round Table" a local group of design professionals. He also said that the AIA professional society is supportive and willing to help, but they need to have clients request green building features. He said that Cambridge is trying to find ways to get clients to ask for these features.

Councillor Davis then invited other comments and described the council orders that she will be bringing in, including one for a new responsibility for one person to be in charge of energy conservation and efficiency.

Councillor Davis asked Richard Rossi what should be done in terms of energy conservation in Cambridge buildings. Richard Rossi said we should start with inventory of what is going on.

Ms. Clippinger suggested taking time to recognize and commend the achievements and accomplishments in this area.

Councillor Davis said that she will also be requesting recommendations on what can be done to "green" the city fleet with either electric vehicles or C.N.G. fuel.

Ms. Clippinger said that there are limits to the capacity of electric vehicles. An electric garbage truck is probably not possible.

Mr. Bolduc said that this is where C.N.G. vehicles would be useful, but the limit there is the availability of refueling stations. Right now the closest station is out by Route 128. Mr. Bolduc said that Cambridge participates in the State Clean Cities Coalition and expects that the state will be putting some of the alternative fuel funding available into the infrastructure they need to utilize C.N.G. fuel.

Councillor Davis said Boston is thinking of setting up a C.N.G. facility on Southampton Street. There is also the possibility using the Western Avenue State Police site. Partnering with other communities may solve some of these problems.

Councillor Born asked if the City is undertaking air testing at key intersections, and if not, could we do so.

Mr. Bolduc said that Cambridge does not presently have the capacity. Monitoring is done by State DEP and the federal EPA, with monitoring stations set up around the state. There is no station in Cambridge. Ms. Clippinger noted that monitoring on the individual level is problematic. Mr. Bolduc said that the technology exists but is very expensive and air quality is best addressed on a regional level. Also, the air quality in the region has improved.

Ms. Seiderman reiterated that even if Cambridge could we spend the money to monitor air quality on an intersection level, it cannot be impacted at that level. Ms. Preston noted that the level on which a pollutant can be impacted depends on the types of pollutant. The particulate pollution of buses can be locally addressed but the carbon dioxide emissions cannot effectively addressed that way.

Councillor Davis thanked those present for their attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 A.M.

For the Committee,

Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000

1. A communication was received from Councillor Henrietta Davis, transmitting a communication regarding truck traffic on Blanchard Road.

