

City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk

INÊS DA SILVA PAULINO LEITE
CITY CLERK

CHELSEA PACHECO
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: August 11, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Cliff A. Ponte, presiding;
Councilors Shawn E. Cadime, Joseph D. Camara, Michael G. Canuel,
Michelle M. Dionne, Paul B. Hart, Linda M. Pereira and Andrew J. Raposo

ABSENT: Councilor Christopher M. Peckham, Sr.

IN ATTENDANCE: None

President Ponte called the meeting to order at 7:43 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

Councilor Cadime exited the Council Chamber at 7:43 p.m.

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. Mayor and request for confirmation of the appointment of Ann O'Neil-Souza as the City Administrator

Councilor Raposo asked if the vacant Chief of Staff position previously held by Ms. O'Neil-Souza would be filled or eliminated. President Ponte stated that, following a discussion with the Mayor, the position is currently vacant but is funded within the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. Councilor Camara requested that a recess be held to ensure Councilor Cadime was present to vote upon the confirmation of appointment.

A recess was held from 7:45 p.m. to 7:46 p.m.

Councilor Cadime returned to the Council Chamber at 7:46 p.m.

On a motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Camara, it was voted 7 yeas to confirm the appointment, with Councilor Cadime abstaining and Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

2. Mayor and communication from Corporation Counsel requesting reconsideration of the Petition for a Zoning Map Amendment previously submitted at the Regular Meeting of the City Council on July 14, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

3. Letter from City Council President to MassDOT re: Route 79/Davol Street Corridor redevelopment

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

4. Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff and updates re: former Police Station on Bedford Street

President Ponte stated that he included this on the agenda to ensure all Councilors received information regarding the demolition of the former Police Station. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

5. Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the recommendations be referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

6. All readings with emergency preamble:

Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Handicapped Parking

- Cherry Street, South, 198 west of Grove Street
- Palmer Street, North, 224 feet west of East Main Street
- Plain Street, East, 314 feet north of Bedford Street
- St. Mary's Street, East, 136 feet south of Essex Street
- Tripp Street, East, 87 feet north of King Phillip Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted 8 yeas to adopt the emergency preamble, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through first reading, second reading, passed to be enrolled and passed to be ordained, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

7. First Reading:

Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous

Handicapped parking removals

- Third Street, West, 155 feet south of Branch Street
- Hunter Street, East, 126 feet south of Hope Street
- Mason Street, East, 328 feet south of Pleasant Street
- Pine Street, South, 20 feet east of Robeson Street
- South Beach Street, East, 104 feet south of Oliver Street
- South Beacon Street, West, 343 feet north of Sprague Street
- Washington Street, West, 128 feet north of William Street

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through first reading, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

8. Adoption:

Order – Creation of an Ad-Hoc School Transportation Committee

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

ORDINANCES – None

RESOLUTIONS

9. Committee on Ordinances and Legislation convene with Corporation Counsel to discuss potential amendments to City code §46-7, which relates to Noise

Councilor Raposo stated that he had submitted this resolution following complaints from residents regarding loud vehicles throughout the City. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

10. Committee on Finance convene with various parties to discuss the current population estimates for the City of Fall River

President Ponte stated that Councilor Peckham had requested that the City Council support this matter and adopt his resolution. Councilor Pereira acknowledged Councilor Peckham's concerns regarding population growth and public safety but stated that she could not support this resolution. Councilor Pereira encouraged residents to participate in the census.

On a motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Camara, it was voted 7 yeas, 1 nay, that the resolution be granted leave to withdraw, with President Ponte voting in the affirmative and Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to take items 11 through 16 together, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

CITATIONS

11. Michael (Doc) Crane – 80th Birthday (September 17, 1946 – September 17, 2026)
12. Divina Grossman – 70th Birthday (September 17, 1956 – September 17, 2026)
13. Brandon Gomes – Executive Vice President & General Manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Third World Series Championship
14. Scott and Monique Lopes – Support and dedication of the We Love Children organization
15. Giuliana Madeira – Fundraising over \$20,000 for displaced residents of the Hicks Street fire
16. Brian Levesque – Reopening historic Night Owl Diner as Night Owl Artisan Pizza & Bakery Co.

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted that items 11 through 16 be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

ORDERS – HEARINGS

Auto Body Shop License

17. Zaibak Salem Alzaibak, 65 Little Neck Avenue, Swansea, MA 02777 d/b/a Auto Genie LLC for a license to operate an auto body shop at 235 John Street, on Lot I-15-22, Assessors Plan.

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

Jointly Owned Pole Location

18. Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc., South Beacon Street – Three (3) new jointly owned pole locations and two (2) new jointly owned anchors

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

Curb Removal

19. Nelson Cabral, 57 Ryans Way, Swansea, MA, 02777 – Removal of 14 feet, 6 inches, of curbing for a total opening of 25 feet, 2 inches, at 89 McDonald Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

20. Auto Body License Renewal

Fausto Ortiz d/b/a Auto Rally Inc., 1033 Pleasant Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

21. Auto Repair Shop License Renewals

Fausto Ortiz d/b/a Auto Rally Inc., 1033 Pleasant Street

Pablo Dayvid Rodrigues Silva d/b/a Brother's Auto Sales and Services, Inc.,
59 North Quarry Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

22. Police Chief's Report on Licenses

Taxicab Drivers

Jaime-Lee DeTerra

Private Livery Drivers

Jalal Muhammad Willie Blakney

Private Livery Vehicles

Spencer Luxury Transportation – One (1) vehicle

Heavens Angel Limo – One (1) vehicle

On a motion made by Councilor Hart and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

23. Claims

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted to refer the claims to Corporation Counsel, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

24. City resident and communication re: taxicab companies

Councilor Raposo asked if any return address was included with this communication. The City Clerk stated that no contact information was provided in this letter or on the mailing envelope. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed file, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

25. Open Meeting Law complaint filed by Collin Dias re: July 28, 2026, alleged violation by City Council

Councilor Pereira requested that the City Clerk read the complaint aloud.

Councilor Pereira stated that the City Council is not responsible for interactions held between individuals in the audience prior to a meeting and that there was a Fall River Police Officer present in the City Council Hearing Room who could have assisted anyone if a conflict occurred. Councilor Pereira expressed concern that Corporation Counsel may not be able to address this matter due to a conflict of interest. Councilor Pereira asked if the City Council would need to utilize outside legal counsel funding to have a third-party attorney respond to this Open Meeting Law complaint. President Ponte stated that the Council would refer this complaint to Corporation Counsel, as that is the established protocol for Open Meeting Law complaints that are received.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to refer the Open Meeting Law complaint to Corporation Counsel, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

26. Application for a structure on or over a public way for Motta Auto Repair and Service to place a building sign (4' x 3') from July 13, 2026, to January 1, 2027, at 830 Globe Street
President Ponte requested clarification regarding what type of structure over a public way is being installed. The City Clerk clarified that this will be a business sign that is hung over the sidewalk, which is a public way. Councilor Canuel asked why the dates listed were from July 13, 2026, to January 1, 2027. The City Clerk explained that the July 13 date would be updated to reflect the date after the City Council's vote. The City Clerk further explained that these permits are renewed annually, and the applicant will need to renew the permit at the beginning of next year.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to approve the application, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

27. Application for structures on or over a public way for Elections Department to hang Election Day/VOTE banners from August 19 to September 1, 2026 at the following locations:
- a. Downtown (South Main Street) (13' x 6.5')
 - b. Bedford Street (13' x 6.5')
 - c. Pleasant Street (25' x 3')

The City Clerk clarified that the Inspectional Services Department recommended a denial for the Bedford Street application, as the banner would be placed in an area near the demolition zone of the former Police Station. President Ponte and Councilor Raposo suggested that the Elections Department hang their banner in a different area of Bedford Street. The City Clerk explained that there is specific equipment near the former Police Station that is designed to hold up very large banners, and that other areas of the street may not have this necessary attachment apparatus.

Councilor Camara suggested that the sign be placed in a different part of the City to ensure all voters are aware of the upcoming elections. The City Clerk stated that the City Council could send a letter to the Director of Community Maintenance to investigate this matter, but that the next City Council meeting, scheduled for September 8, 2026, would occur after the banner is planned to be removed on September 1, 2026.

On a motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to approve the applications for Downtown (South Main Street) and Pleasant Street, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to deny the application for Bedford Street, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting. Councilor Raposo also requested that the City Council send correspondence to the Director of the Board of Elections Department regarding finding a new location for the banner or to use other advertisement methods that could be used to notify voters of the elections in high traffic areas, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

28. Drainlayer License
Farland Corp. Inc.

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to approve the drainlayer license application, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

29. Planning Board Minutes
May 13, 2026 June 10, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted that the minutes be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

30. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – June 18, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted that the minutes be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to take items 31 through 34 together, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

City Council Minutes

- 31. Public Hearings – July 14, 2026
- 32. Committee on Finance – July 14, 2026
- 33. Regular Meeting of the City Council – July 14, 2026
- 34. Special Meeting of the City Council – July 28, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

Councilor Hart exited the Council Chamber at 8:13 p.m.

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: AUGUST 11, 2026

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Finance recommending:

Action

- 8a. Loan Order – Repairs, renovations and maintenance of the Third Street Parking Garage in the amount of \$6,883,400.00

The Councilors held a brief discussion regarding the timeline for the completion of the Third Street Parking Garage renovations, which is anticipated to be finished by November 2026. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted 7 yeas, to adopt the loan order, with Councilors Hart and Peckham absent and not voting.

Councilor Hart returned to the Council Chamber at 8:15 p.m.

On a motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to reconsider the previous vote on item 8a, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was voted 8 yeas to adopt the loan order, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

Approved, August 13, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

RESOLUTIONS

- 10a. The Committee on Public Works and Transportation convene with City residents of Judge Street and Greenleaf Street, the Director of Engineering and Planning, Corporation Counsel and other interested parties to discuss road conditions of the Arruda Lane access road in Tiverton, Rhode Island

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

On a motion made by Vice President Dionne and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:16 p.m., with Councilor Peckham absent and not voting.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Unis da Silva Paulino Leite". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

City Clerk

In City Council, September 22, 2026
Approved.

Ines Leite

From: Ines Leite
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2026 1:03 PM
To: Ryan Lyons
Subject: Election Banner and Bedford Street

Hi Ryan.

The City Council requested that a communication be sent regarding the Structure over a public way application that was submitted for Bedford Street.

As you know, this portion of the application was denied due to the vicinity of this location to the demolition of the former Police Station. The recommendation for this denial was provided by the Director of Inspectional Services.

The City Council recommends that you review other areas in the City where this election banner or future banners could be installed, including neighborhoods outside of the downtown area.

If the use of this large banner is not possible in a different area of Fall River, the City Council mentioned that you could research the use of non-banner advertisement material to ensure voters throughout the City are given notice of the upcoming elections.

The Council is aware that due to their meeting schedule, an approval of a new banner petition will not be possible prior to the Primary Election in September. However, a new location could be considered if the banners were to be used prior to the General Election in November.

Inês

Inês da Silva Paulino Leite, CMC
City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722
T: 508-324-2220
F: 508-324-2211
E: ileite@fallriverma.gov



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Office of the City Clerk
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2026 AUG -7 P 1:22

INÊS DA SILVA PAULINO LEITE
CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

CHELSEA PACHECO
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ONE GOVERNMENT CENTER
AUGUST 11, 2026
AGENDA

5:00 P.M. COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND LEGISLATION

5:55 P.M. PUBLIC HEARINGS (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES AND LEGISLATION MEETING IF IT RUNS PAST 5:55 P.M.)

Auto Repair Shop License

1. Zaibak Salem Alzaibak, 65 Little Neck Avenue, Swansea, MA 02777 d/b/a Auto Genie LLC for a license to operate an auto body shop at 235 John Street, on Lot I-15-22, Assessors Plan.

Jointly Owned Pole Location

2. Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc, for one new jointly owned pole location as follows:

South Beacon Street

Three (3) new jointly owned pole locations
Two (2) new jointly owned anchors

Install three new jointly owned poles and two new jointly owned anchors along the east edge of South Beacon Street. Pole 12 and anchor will be installed approximately 125 feet southwest of existing Pole 11. Pole 13, Pole 14 and anchor will be installed 135 feet and 120 feet, respectively, apart from one another, heading in a southerly direction on South Beacon Street. In accordance with Plan No. 31292722.

3. **Curb Removal**

Nelson Cabral, 57 Ryans Way, Swansea, MA, 02777, for the removal of curbing as follows:

	Existing Opening	Curbing to be Removed	Curbing to be Added	Combined Opening Proposed After Alteration
89 McDonald Street	10' 8"	14' 6"	0'	25' 2"

The existing parcel is currently served by a 10-foot, 8-inch, curb opening/driveway. The applicant requests permission to extend the opening by an additional 14 feet, 6 inches. The total opening for the location will be 25 feet, 2 inches.

ADA Coordinator: Gary P. Howayeck, Esq. 508-324-2650

One Government Center • Fall River, MA 02722
TEL 508-324-2220 • FAX 508-324-2211 • EMAIL city_clerk@fallriverma.gov

6:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARINGS IF THEY RUN PAST 6:00 P.M.)

Presentation of Citations

- Giuliana Madeira – Fundraising over \$20,000 for displaced residents of the Hicks Street fire

1. Citizen Input
2. *Loan Order – Repairs, renovations and maintenance of the Third Street Parking Garage in the amount of \$6,883,400.00 (referred 7-14-2026)
3. *Resolution – Committee on Finance reconvene with a representative from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the City Administrator and the City Engineer for an update on the progress of the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Improvements Project (tabled 12-17-2024)
4. *Resolution – Committee on Finance Convene to discuss the anticipated timeline of the land ownership transfer and planned real estate distribution process within the Route 79/Davol Street Corridor Improvements Project area (tabled 7-15-2025)

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL (OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE MEETING IF IT RUNS PAST 7:00 P.M.)

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. *Mayor and request for confirmation of the appointment of Ann O'Neil-Souza as the City Administrator
2. *Mayor and communication from Corporation Counsel requesting reconsideration of the Petition for a Zoning Map Amendment previously submitted at the Regular Meeting of the City Council on July 14, 2026

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

3. *Letter from City Council President to MassDOT re: Route 79/Davol Street Corridor redevelopment
4. *Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff and updates re: former Police Station on Bedford Street
5. *Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Ordinances and Legislation recommending:

6. All readings with emergency preamble:
 - *Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Handicapped Parking
 - Cherry Street, South, 198 west of Grove Street
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 - Plain Street, East, 314 feet north of Bedford Street
 - St. Mary's Street, East, 136 feet south of Essex Street
 - Tripp Street, East, 87 feet north of King Phillip Street
7. First Reading:
 - *Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous Handicapped parking removals
 - Third Street, West, 155 feet south of Branch Street
 - Hunter Street, East, 126 feet south of Hope Street
 - Mason Street, East, 328 feet south of Pleasant Street
 - Pine Street, South, 20 feet east of Robeson Street
 - South Beach Street, East, 104 feet south of Oliver Street
 - South Beacon Street, West, 343 feet north of Sprague Street
 - Washington Street, West, 128 feet north of William Street

8. Adoption:
*Order – Creation of an Ad-Hoc School Transportation Committee

ORDINANCES – None

RESOLUTIONS

9. *Committee on Ordinances and Legislation convene with Corporation Counsel to discuss potential amendments to City code §46-7, which relates to Noise
10. *Committee on Finance convene with various parties to discuss the current population estimates for the City of Fall River

CITATIONS

11. Michael (Doc) Crane – 80th Birthday (September 17, 1946 – September 17, 2026)
12. Divina Grossman – 70th Birthday (September 17, 1956 – September 17, 2026)
13. Brandon Gomes – Executive Vice President & General Manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Third World Series Championship
14. Scott and Monique Lopes – Support and dedication of the We Love Children organization
15. Giuliana Madeira – Fundraising over \$20,000 for displaced residents of the Hicks Street fire
16. Brian Levesque – Reopening historic Night Owl Diner as Night Owl Artisan Pizza & Bakery Co.

ORDERS – HEARINGS

- Auto Body Shop License
17. Zaibak Salem Alzaibak, 65 Little Neck Avenue, Swansea, MA 02777 d/b/a Auto Genie LLC for a license to operate an auto body shop at 235 John Street, on Lot I-15-22, Assessors Plan.
Jointly Owned Pole Location
18. Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc., South Beacon Street – Three (3) new jointly owned pole locations and two (2) new jointly owned anchors
Curb Removal
19. Nelson Cabral, 57 Ryans Way, Swansea, MA, 02777 – Removal of 14 feet, 6 inches, of curbing for a total opening of 25 feet, 2 inches, at 89 McDonald Street

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

20. Auto Body License Renewal
Fausto Ortiz d/b/a Auto Rally Inc., 1033 Pleasant Street
21. Auto Repair Shop License Renewals
Fausto Ortiz d/b/a Auto Rally Inc., 1033 Pleasant Street
Pablo Dayvid Rodrigues Silva d/b/a Brother's Auto Sales and Services, Inc., 59 North Quarry Street

22. Police Chief's Report on Licenses

Taxicab Drivers

Jaime-Lee DeTerra

Private Livery Drivers

Jalal Muhammad Willie Blakney

Private Livery Vehicles

Spencer Luxury Transportation – One (1) vehicle

Heavens Angel Limo – One (1) vehicle

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

23. *Claims

24. *City resident and communication re: taxicab companies

25. *Open Meeting Law complaint filed by Collin Dias re: July 28, 2026, alleged violation by City Council

26. Application for a structure on or over a public way for Motta Auto Repair and Service to place a building sign (4' x 3') from July 13, 2026, to January 1, 2027, at 830 Globe Street

27. Application for structures on or over a public way for Elections Department to hang Election Day/VOTE banners from August 19 to September 1, 2026 at the following locations:

a. Downtown (South Main Street) (13' x 6.5')

b. Bedford Street (13' x 6.5')

c. Pleasant Street (25' x 3')

28. Drainlayer License

Farland Corp. Inc.

29. Planning Board Minutes

May 13, 2026 June 10, 2026

30. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – June 18, 2026

City Council Minutes

31. *Public Hearings – July 14, 2026

32. *Committee on Finance – July 14, 2026

33. *Regular Meeting of the City Council – July 14, 2026

34. *Special Meeting of the City Council – July 28, 2026

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None


Assistant City Clerk

OTHER POTENTIAL MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (if received):

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Finance recommending:

Action

- Loan Order – Repairs, renovations and maintenance of the Third Street Parking Garage in the amount of \$6,883,400.00

ADA Coordinator: Gary P. Howayeck, Esq. 508-324-2650



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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2026 AUG -6 P 3:52

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

August 6, 2026

Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Members of the City Council:

I hereby request the confirmation by the City Council for the following appointment:

Name: Ann O'Neil-Souza
Address: 351 Kenyon St.
Fall River, MA 02720
To: City Administrator
Effective Date: August 17, 2026
Annual salary: \$145,000.00

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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2026 AUG -6 P 4:09

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

August 6, 2026

Council President
Members of the Honorable Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Council President and Members of the Honorable Council,

Attached please find for your review the attached letter from Corporation Counsel, Alan Rumsey, as it refers to the matter of a Reconsideration of the Petition for Zoning Map Amendment previously submitted by Ian Tomkins/Ten Registered voters.

For any additional questions or concerns please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,


Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

PC/amos



**OFFICE OF THE
CORPORATION COUNSEL**

CITY OF FALL RIVER

2

6 August 2026

Honorable Mayor Paul E. Coogan
City of Fall River
Once Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Mayor Coogan:

Please accept this letter as a formal request to have the following issue placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting:

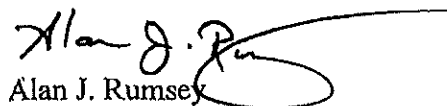
**Reconsideration of the Petition for Zoning Map Amendment previously submitted
by Ian Tompkins/Ten Registered Voters**

As you are aware, the Petition for Zoning Map Amendment previously submitted by Mr. Tompkins was not referred to the Planning Board within fourteen (14) days as required by G.L. c. 40A, Section 5.

Once on the agenda, I would recommend that the City Council move to reconsider the issue and vote to either 1) Forward the proposed zoning ordinance to the Planning Board; or 2) Refund the \$500 fee to Mr. Tompkins. Mr. Tompkins would prefer the refund option (option #2).

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,


Alan J. Rumsey
Corporation Counsel

Part I	ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
Title VII	CITIES, TOWNS AND DISTRICTS
Chapter 40A	ZONING
Section 5	ADOPTION OR CHANGE OF ZONING ORDINANCES OR BY-LAWS; PROCEDURE

Section 5. Zoning ordinances or by-laws may be adopted and from time to time changed by amendment, addition or repeal, but only in the manner hereinafter provided. Adoption or change of zoning ordinances or by-laws may be initiated by the submission to the city council or board of selectmen of a proposed zoning ordinance or by-law by a city council, a board of selectmen, a board of appeals, by an individual owning land to be affected by change or adoption, by request of registered voters of a town pursuant to section ten of chapter thirty-nine, by ten registered voters in a city, by a planning board, by a regional planning agency or by other methods provided by municipal charter. The board of selectmen or city council shall within fourteen days of receipt of such zoning ordinance or by-law submit it to the planning board for review.

No zoning ordinance or by-law or amendment thereto shall be adopted until after the planning board in a city or town, and the city council or a committee designated or appointed for the purpose by said council has each held a public hearing thereon, together or separately, at which

interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard. Said public hearing shall be held within sixty-five days after the proposed zoning ordinance or by-law is submitted to the planning board by the city council or selectmen or if there is none, within sixty-five days after the proposed zoning ordinance or by-law is submitted to the city council or selectmen. Notice of the time and place of such public hearing, of the subject matter, sufficient for identification, and of the place where texts and maps thereof may be inspected shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication to be not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing, and by posting such notice in a conspicuous place in the city or town hall for a period of not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing. Notice of said hearing shall also be sent by mail, postage prepaid to the executive office of housing and livable communities, the regional planning agency, if any, and to the planning board of each abutting city and town. The executive office of housing and livable communities, the regional planning agency, the planning boards of all abutting cities and towns and nonresident property owners who may not have received notice by mail as specified in this section may grant a waiver of notice or submit an affidavit of actual notice to the city or town clerk prior to town meeting or city council action on a proposed zoning ordinance, by-law or change thereto. Zoning ordinances or by-laws may provide that a separate, conspicuous statement shall be included with property tax bills sent to nonresident property owners, stating that notice of such hearings under this chapter shall be sent by mail, postage prepaid, to any such owner who files an annual request for such notice with the city or town clerk no later than January first, and pays a reasonable fee established by such ordinance or by-law. In cases involving boundary, density or use

changes within a district, notice shall be sent to any such nonresident property owner who has filed such a request with the city or town clerk and whose property lies in the district where the change is sought. No defect in the form of any notice under this chapter shall invalidate any zoning ordinances or by-laws unless such defect is found to be misleading.

Prior to the adoption of any zoning ordinance or by-law or amendment thereto which seeks to further regulate matters established by section forty of chapter one hundred and thirty-one or regulations authorized thereunder relative to agricultural and aquacultural practices, the city or town clerk shall, no later than seven days prior to the city council's or town meeting's public hearing relative to the adoption of said new or amended zoning ordinances or by-laws, give notice of the said proposed zoning ordinances or by-laws to the farmland advisory board established pursuant to section forty of chapter one hundred and thirty-one.

No vote to adopt any such proposed ordinance or by-law or amendment thereto shall be taken until a report with recommendations by a planning board has been submitted to the town meeting or city council, or twenty-one days after said hearing has elapsed without submission of such report. After such notice, hearing and report, or after twenty-one days shall have elapsed after such hearing without submission of such report, a city council or town meeting may adopt, reject, or amend and adopt any such proposed ordinance or by-law. If a city council fails to vote to adopt any proposed ordinance within ninety days after the city council hearing or if a town meeting fails to vote to adopt any proposed by-law within six months after the planning board hearing, no action shall be taken thereon until after a subsequent public hearing is held with notice and report as provided.

Except as provided herein, no zoning ordinance or by-law or amendment thereto shall be adopted or changed except by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the town council, or of the city council where there is a commission form of government or a single branch, or of each branch where there are 2 branches, or by a two-thirds vote of a town meeting; provided, however, that the following shall be adopted by a vote of a simple majority of all members of the town council or of the city council where there is a commission form of government or a single branch or of each branch where there are 2 branches or by a vote of a simple majority of town meeting:

- (1) an amendment to a zoning ordinance or by-law to allow any of the following as of right: (a) multifamily housing or mixed-use development in an eligible location; (b) accessory dwelling units, whether within the principal dwelling or a detached structure on the same lot; or (c) open-space residential development;
- (2) an amendment to a zoning ordinance or by-law to allow by special permit: (a) multi-family housing or mixed-use development in an eligible location; (b) an increase in the permissible density of population or intensity of a particular use in a proposed multi-family or mixed use development pursuant to section 9; (c) accessory dwelling units in a detached structure on the same lot; or (d) a diminution in the amount of parking required for residential or mixed-use development pursuant to section 9;
- (3) zoning ordinances or by-laws or amendments thereto that: (a) provide for TDR zoning or natural resource protection zoning in instances where the adoption of such zoning promotes concentration of development in areas that the municipality deems most appropriate for such development,

but will not result in a diminution in the maximum number of housing units that could be developed within the municipality; or (b) modify regulations concerning the bulk and height of structures, yard sizes, lot area, setbacks, open space, parking and building coverage requirements to allow for additional housing units beyond what would otherwise be permitted under the existing zoning ordinance or by-law; and

(4) the adoption of a smart growth zoning district or starter home zoning district in accordance with section 3 of chapter 40R.

Any amendment that requires a simple majority vote shall not be combined with an amendment that requires a two-thirds majority vote.

If, in a city or town with a council of fewer than 25 members, there is filed with the clerk prior to final action by the council a written protest against a zoning change under this section, stating the reasons duly signed by owners of 50 per cent or more of the area of the land proposed to be included in such change or of the area of the land immediately adjacent extending 300 feet therefrom, no change of any such ordinance shall be adopted except by a two-thirds vote of all members.

No proposed zoning ordinance or by-law which has been unfavorably acted upon by a city council or town meeting shall be considered by the city council or town meeting within two years after the date of such unfavorable action unless the adoption of such proposed ordinance or by-law is recommended in the final report of the planning board.

When zoning by-laws or amendments thereto are submitted to the attorney general for approval as required by section thirty-two of chapter forty, he shall also be furnished with a statement which may be prepared by the planning board explaining the by-laws or amendments proposed, which statement may be accompanied by explanatory maps or plans.

2
The effective date of the adoption or amendment of any zoning ordinance or by-law shall be the date on which such adoption or amendment was voted upon by a city council or town meeting; if in towns, publication in a town bulletin or pamphlet and posting is subsequently made or publication in a newspaper pursuant to section thirty-two of chapter forty. If, in a town, said by-law is subsequently disapproved, in whole or in part, by the attorney general, the previous zoning by-law, to the extent that such previous zoning by-law was changed by the disapproved by-law or portion thereof, shall be deemed to have been in effect from the date of such vote. In a municipality which is not required to submit zoning ordinances to the attorney general for approval pursuant to section thirty-two of chapter forty, the effective date of such ordinance or amendment shall be the date passed by the city council and signed by the mayor or, as otherwise provided by ordinance or charter; provided, however, that such ordinance or amendment shall subsequently be forwarded by the city clerk to the office of the attorney general.

A true copy of the zoning ordinance or by-law with any amendments thereto shall be kept on file available for inspection in the office of the clerk of such city or town.

No claim of invalidity of any zoning ordinance or by-law arising out of any possible defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment shall be made in any legal proceedings and no state, regional, county or municipal officer shall refuse, deny or revoke any permit, approval or certificate because of any such claim of invalidity unless legal action is commenced within the time period specified in sections thirty-two and thirty-two A of chapter forty and notice specifying the court, parties, invalidity claimed, and date of filing is filed together with a copy of the petition with the town or city clerk within seven days after commencement of the action.



**City of Fall River
Massachusetts
City Council**

3

RECEIVED

2026 AUG -6 P 2:57

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

CLIFF A. PONTE
*President
City Council*

July 31, 2026

Massachusetts Department of Transportation
10 Park Plaza
Suite 4160
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Officials of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation:

The recent announcement by MassDOT releasing the Invitation to Bid for the redevelopment of approximately 20 acres of waterfront property along Route 79/Davol Street Corridor marks an exciting milestone for the City of Fall River. This project represents one of the largest redevelopment opportunities in our city's history and has the potential to generate significant housing, employment, commercial investment, and long-term economic growth.

Because of its magnitude and lasting impact, it is essential that the redevelopment process be transparent, competitive, and include meaningful participation by the City of Fall River. As City Council President, I believe it is important that the residents of Fall River understand how decisions regarding this transformational project will be made. While the Commonwealth owns the property and is administering the procurement, the ultimate impacts of this development including transportation, public safety, municipal services, infrastructure, housing, economic development, and quality of life will be borne by our community for generations.

Accordingly, I respectfully request clarification regarding the following:

- Who will serve on the evaluation committee responsible for reviewing and scoring the proposals?
- What role, if any, will the City of Fall River have during the evaluation and selection process?
- Will Fall River have an opportunity to review the proposals or provide recommendations before a developer is selected?
- Will local officials have an opportunity to provide input before the selection process is completed?
- Will the evaluation criteria and scoring methodology be made available to the public?
- What commitments will be required regarding public waterfront access, transportation improvements, infrastructure, housing affordability, local business participation, and workforce opportunities?

This project represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to shape Fall River's future. Such an opportunity deserves a process that inspires public confidence and reflects the highest standards of openness and accountability.

I also believe it is important that the procurement encourages broad competition among qualified development teams. The public benefits most when the process is structured to maximize participation, innovation, and competition while ensuring that every qualified proposer has a fair and equal opportunity to compete. Transparency throughout the procurement process helps reinforce confidence that the selected proposal is based on merit and best serves the interests of both the Commonwealth and the residents of Fall River.

The City Council has a responsibility to represent the interests of our residents and to understand how this redevelopment will affect municipal operations, future planning, and our waterfront for decades to come. I respectfully request that MassDOT and the City's administration consider providing a public briefing to the City Council outlining the procurement process, anticipated timeline and the City's role throughout the evaluation.

This redevelopment has the potential to redefine Fall River's waterfront and strengthen our community for generations. Ensuring transparency, meaningful local participation, and public engagement throughout the process will help guarantee that the project reflects the best interests of the people it is ultimately intended to serve.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to your response.

Respectfully,



Cliff Ponte
President, Fall River City Council



City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

RECEIVED

2026 AUG -6 P 3:02

August 6, 2026

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Council President
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

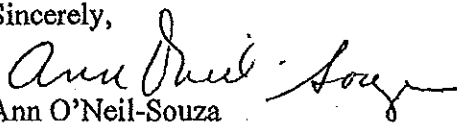
Dear Council President,

This is in response to your inquiry regarding the status of the demolition of the former Police Station on Bedford Street:

- July 13th through July 23rd – Site preparation for the demolition site including removal of articles from the façade for preservation and road/traffic logistics with the placement of barriers and lane closures
- July 24th - Mass DEP denied the company's (Bestech) demolition plan and asked for a more comprehensive submission
- August 4th – City notified of approval of Bestech's demolition plan by MassDEP
- August 5th – local Building Commissioner signed permit for demolition
- August 6th- Demo company is currently awaiting the approval by MassDEP for their disposal sites for demo materials disposal

We hope the company will be back on-site next week. The Building Commissioner remains in contact with all parties and will continue to keep the council updated. Please let us know if there are any other questions or concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Ann O'Neil-Souza
Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff

Cc:

Brenda Beaudry
Glenn Hathaway

5

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

July 21, 2026

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA _____

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387

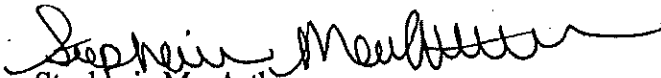
HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Cambridge Street	South	Starting at a point 70 feet East of Coggeshall Street. For a distance of 20 feet East.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur

Director of Traffic & Parking

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

July 21, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

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That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70

Section: 387

HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street
Charles Street

Side
South

Location
Starting at a point 60 feet East of Milk Street.
For a distance of 20 feet East.

Very truly yours,

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

35

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 21, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70

Section: 387

HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Plain Street	West	Starting at a point 115 feet South of Pine Street. For a distance of 20 feet South.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

5

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA _____

July 21, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

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Article: 70
Section: 387

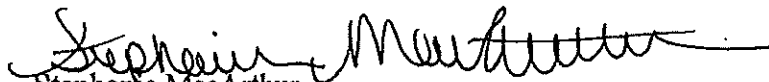
HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Snell Street	North	Starting at a point 269 feet East of Plymouth Ave. For a distance of 20 feet East.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

July 21, 2026

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

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Article: 70
Section: 387

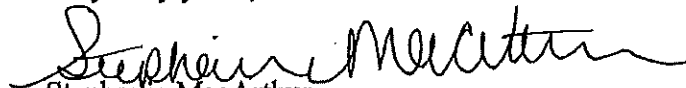
HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Stanley Street	North	Starting at a point 152 feet East of Hanover Street. For a distance of 20 feet East.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

5
CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 21, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

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That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70

Section: 387

HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street

Side

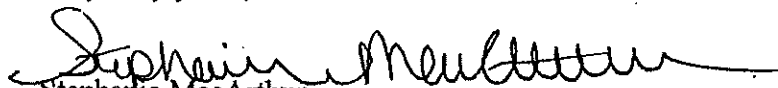
Location

Tripp Street

West

Starting at a point 51 feet South of Charles Street.
For a distance of 20 feet South.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS

Traffic & Parking Division



RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 21, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02720

Honorable Council Members:

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That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387

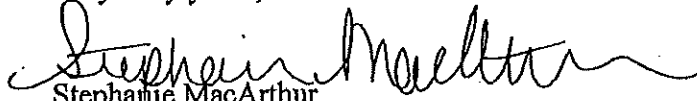
HANDICAP PARKING

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following:

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location
Whipple Street	West	Starting at a point 103 feet North of Cottage Street. For a distance of 20 feet North.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS

Traffic & Parking Division
RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 A 8:14

CITY CLERK _____
FALL RIVER, MA



Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic

July 21, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request met all the guidelines, requirements and was approved by the Traffic Commission Board.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article:	70	Loading Zone
Section:	385	8:00AM-6:00PM
		Monday-Saturday

By inserting in proper alphabetical order the following.

INSERT

Name of Street	Side	Location	Hours/Days
William Street	South	Starting at a point 20 feet West of Eagle Street for a distance of 25 feet West.	8:00AM-6:00PM Monday-Saturday

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Baker Street	East	Starting at a point of 100 feet South of Warren Street, for a distance of 20 feet Southerly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8:18
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

JS

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Division Street	North	Starting at a point of 80 feet East of Grant Street, for a distance of 20 feet Easterly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8:18
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

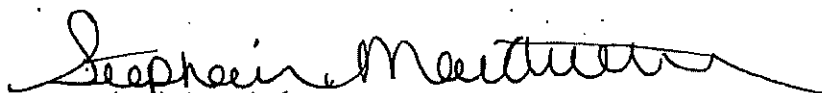
Article: 70
Section: 387

Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Garfield Street	West	Starting at a point of 86 feet South of Globe Street, for a distance of 20 feet Southerly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

2026 JUL 21 A 8:18

RECEIVED

55

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

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That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
John Street	West	Starting at a point of 30 feet South of Branch Street, for a distance of 20 feet South.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8:18
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

JS

5

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission:

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387

Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Linden Street	West	Starting at a point of 85 feet North of Walnut Street, for a distance of 20 feet North.

Very truly yours,

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8 18

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

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That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Orchard Street	North	Starting at a point of 22 feet West of Quarry Street, for a distance of 20 feet Westerly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8:18
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

55

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

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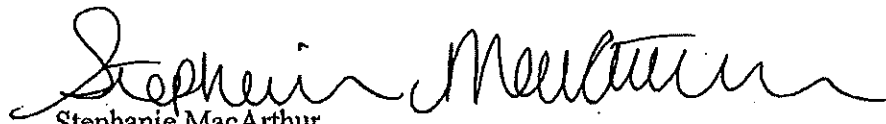
Article: 70
Section: 387

Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
St. Mary Street	West	Starting at a point of 13 feet South of Norfolk Street, for a distance of 20 feet Southerly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

2026 JUL 21 A 8:18

RECEIVED

JS

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

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That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70

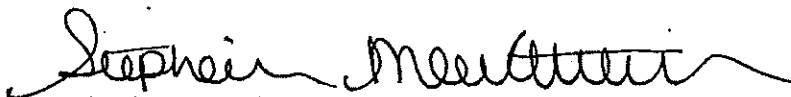
Section: 387

Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
South Beach Street	West	Starting at a point of 257 feet South of Middle Street, for a distance of 20 feet South.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8:18
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

5

CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

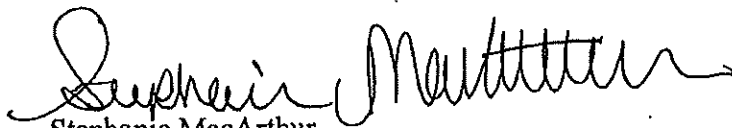
Article: 70
Section: 387

Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
Tecumseh Street	North	Starting at a point of 145 feet West of Manchester Street, for a distance of 20 feet Westerly.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8:18
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

5

**CITY OF FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS**



Traffic & Parking Division

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor

Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

July 16, 2026

The Honorable City Council
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Honorable Council Members:

At a meeting of the Traffic Board Commission held on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 the following request was heard and approved by the Traffic Commission.

That Chapter 70 of Revised Ordinances be amended in the following Section:

Article: 70
Section: 387 Handicapped Parking

By striking out in proper alphabetical order the following.

Name of Street	Side	Location
William Street	North	Starting at a point of 36 feet East of Mulberry Street, for a distance of 20 feet East.

Very truly yours,


Stephanie MacArthur
Director of Traffic & Parking

RECEIVED
2026 JUL 21 A 8 18
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

CITY OF FALL RIVER

6

To the City Council

Councillors:

The Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, at a meeting held on July 23, 2026, voted unanimously to recommend the accompanying proposed ordinance, accompanied by an emergency preamble, be passed through first reading, second reading, passed to be enrolled and passed to be ordained.



Assistant Clerk of Committees

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

6

EMERGENCY PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, the immediate passage of the accompanying proposed ordinance is deemed necessary inasmuch as it vitally affects the health and safety of the public, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that said ordinance is hereby deemed an emergency measure in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

City of Fall River, In City Council

6

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Fall River, as follows:

That Chapter 70 of the Code of the City of Fall River, Massachusetts, 2018, which chapter relates to traffic be amended as follows:

By inserting in Section 70-387, which section relates to handicapped parking generally, the following:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Cherry Street	South	Starting at a point 198 feet west of Grove Street, for a distance of 20 feet westerly
Palmer Street	North	Starting at a point 224 feet west of East Main Street, for a distance of 20 feet westerly
Plain Street	East	Starting at a point 314 feet north of Bedford Street, for a distance of 20 feet northerly
St. Mary's Street	East	Starting at a point 136 feet south of Essex Street, for a distance of 20 feet southerly
Tripp Street	East	Starting at a point 87 feet north of King Phillip Street, for a distance of 20 feet northerly

CITY OF FALL RIVER

7

To the City Council

Councillors:

The Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, at a meeting held on July 23, 2026, voted
unanimously to recommend the accompanying proposed ordinance be passed through first reading.



Assistant Clerk of Committees

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Fall River, as follows:

That Chapter 70 of the Code of the City of Fall River, Massachusetts, 2018, which chapter relates to traffic be amended as follows:

By striking out in Section 70-387, which section relates to handicapped parking, the following:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Third Street	West	Starting at a point 155 feet south of Branch Street, for a distance of 20 feet southerly
Hunter Street	East	Starting at a point 126 feet south of Hope Street, for a distance of 20 feet southerly
Mason Street	East	Starting at a point 328 feet south of Pleasant Street, for a distance of 20 feet southerly
Pine Street	South	Starting at a point 20 feet east of Robeson Street, for a distance of 20 feet easterly
South Beach Street	East	Starting at a point 104 feet south of Oliver Street, for a distance of 20 feet southerly
South Beacon Street	West	Starting at a point 343 feet north of Sprague Street, for a distance of 20 feet northerly
Washington Street	West	Starting at a point 128 feet north of William Street, for a distance of 20 feet northerly

CITY OF FALL RIVER

To the City Council

Councillors:

The Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, at a meeting held on July 23, 2026, voted unanimously to recommend that the accompanying order be adopted.



Assistant Clerk of Committees

(Committee on Ordinances and Legislation)

ESTABLISHMENT OF A TEMPORARY AD HOC
SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, student transportation represents a significant financial and operational responsibility of the City of Fall River and the Fall River Public Schools, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has an interest in receiving timely and accurate information concerning school transportation expenditures, budgetary projections, operational considerations, and other factors affecting the cost and delivery of student transportation services, and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish a temporary, collaborative advisory committee to review school transportation matters and to evaluate whether a permanent committee should subsequently be established by ordinance, now therefore

BE IT ORDERED:

1. Establishment

There is hereby established a temporary Ad Hoc School Transportation Committee for a period of one year commencing on the date of adoption of this Order.

2. Purpose

The Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity for the purpose of reviewing and discussing matters concerning school transportation, including transportation expenditures, budgetary projections, contracts, ridership information, service requirements, operational considerations, cost drivers, and other information relevant to the cost and delivery of student transportation services. The Committee may develop findings and make nonbinding recommendations to the City Council, School Committee, Mayor, Superintendent of Schools, and other appropriate municipal or school officials.

3. Membership and Governmental Liaisons

A. Voting Members. The Committee shall consist of five voting members, as follows:

- Three members of the City Council, designated by the President of the City Council; and
- Two members of the School Committee, designated in accordance with the applicable procedures of the School Committee.

All voting members shall be residents of the City of Fall River as required by §9-7(f) of the City Charter.

B. Governmental Liaisons. The following officials shall be requested to participate in the work of the Committee as nonvoting governmental liaisons:

- The Director of Financial Services for the City of Fall River, or the Director's designee;
- The Chief Financial Officer of the Fall River Public Schools, or the Chief Financial Officer's designee;
- One representative designated by the Superintendent of Schools; and
- One representative designated by the Mayor or City Administration.

The governmental liaisons identified in this subsection shall not be members of the Committee, shall not be counted in determining a quorum, shall not vote, and shall not serve as officers of the Committee. They may provide information, reports, professional advice, and responses to questions at the request of the Committee or its chair. All members shall serve without additional compensation.

4. Advisory Status

The Committee shall be advisory only. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as authorizing the Committee to:

- a. Direct or supervise any municipal or School Department officer or employee;
- b. Establish school transportation policy;
- c. Determine student transportation eligibility, routes, schedules, or service levels;
- d. Award, amend, administer, or terminate any contract;
- e. Authorize expenditures, transfers, or commitments of public funds; or
- f. Exercise any power or authority vested by law, charter, ordinance, contract, or policy in the City Council, Mayor, School Committee, Superintendent of Schools, Director of Financial Services, Chief Financial Officer, or any other municipal or school official.

5. Organization and Meetings

The Committee shall select a chair and such other officers as it considers necessary. The Committee may establish a reasonable meeting schedule and adopt procedures necessary for the orderly conduct of its business, consistent with applicable law. The Committee shall conduct its meetings in accordance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18 through 25, and all other applicable provisions of law and the Fall River City Charter.

6. Cooperation and Information

The Committee may request information, reports, presentations, and recommendations from municipal and School Department officials and employees. Any such request shall be subject to applicable law, confidentiality requirements, collective bargaining obligations, and the legal authority and responsibilities of the official or department receiving the request.

Nothing in this Order shall authorize the Committee or any individual member to direct a municipal or School Department employee.

7. Report

Before the expiration of its one-year term, the Committee shall submit a written report to the City Council and School Committee summarizing its activities, findings, and recommendations, including whether a permanent school transportation committee should be established by ordinance.

8. Expiration

The Committee and the authority granted by this Order shall automatically expire one year after the date of adoption of this Order, unless extended by subsequent action of the City Council.

Upon expiration, the Committee shall cease meeting and shall transmit its records to the Office of the City Clerk in accordance with applicable records-retention requirements.

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

(Councilor Andrew J. Raposo)

WHEREAS, there have been several complaints by city residents regarding noise pollution in various areas throughout the City, and

WHEREAS, Section 46-7 of the City code, which section relates to noise, establishes various noise pollution violations during certain hours of the night, and

WHEREAS, this ordinance does not clearly define noise pollution violations during daytime hours or establish clear decibel levels that would qualify as noise pollution, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Ordinances convene with Corporation Counsel to discuss amending Section 46-7 of the City code to include, among other potential needed changes, noise pollution violations during daytime hours and defined decibel levels that qualify for noise pollution violations.

(filed 7-28-2026)

City of Fall River, *In City Council*

(Councillor Christopher M. Peckham, Sr.)

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River is responsible for providing essential municipal services including police, fire, emergency medical services, water, wastewater, solid waste collection, road maintenance, and public health, and

WHEREAS, responsible budgeting and long-term planning require accurate and up-to-date population data to ensure municipal services and infrastructure meet the needs of all residents, and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised that recent population changes, including increases associated with migration, may have increased demand on municipal services beyond what official population estimates and funding formulas currently reflect; and

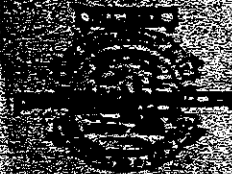
WHEREAS, the Administration and the Commonwealth have admitted to not having an accurate estimate as to the number of residents living within our municipality, and

WHEREAS, increased demand for municipal services without corresponding state or federal financial assistance places additional pressure on the City's limited financial resources and local taxpayers, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fall River City Council Committee on Finance meet with a representative from the Administration, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Governor's Office, a representative from our three State Representatives offices, and a representative from Senator Michael J. Rodrigues' office to discuss the most current population estimates available for the City of Fall River and evaluate whether current local aid formulas accurately reflect the number of residents utilizing municipal services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Administrator of Community Utilities, Director of Health and Human Services, Director of Parks, Director of Traffic and Parking, a representative from Litter Enforcement, the Building Inspector, the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Chief of EMS, and the Director of City Operations also be available and attend this meeting for potential questions pertaining to an increase in population and how it may affect their respective departments.

(filed 8-6-26)



City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

JUL 13 P 2:38

1. Claimant's name: Constance Smith
2. Claimant's complete address: 45 Conant St Fall River MA
3. Telephone number: Home: 508 823 3477 Work: 508 891-6646
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
sidewalk - see pics
5. Date and time of accident: 5/14 3:30 PM Amount of damages claimed: \$ Not sure yet
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
Conant St / Ridge sidewalk lip (see pics)
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
Fell on sidewalk
went via Hospital / Ambulance
Hospital stay
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damage arising from this incident? If so, claimant's address of insurance company: Yes No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River, therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 6/26/26

Claimant's signature: [Signature]

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to: City Clerk, 2nd FL, One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☐ City Clerk ☐ Law ☐ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☐

Date: _____

23

Alpha Dental Of Fall River, L.L.C
 230 Rhode Island Avenue, Fall River, MA-02724
 PH : (508) 646-9600
 Email : FallRiver@alphadentalcenter.com

PAYMENT SUMMARY

Patient : Mrs. Smith, Constance (220183)
 Responsible Party : Mrs. Smith, Constance (220183)

Date : 7/2/2026

Patient	Code - Description	Pat. Amt.	Ins. Amt.	Balance
Previous Balance		\$1,219.00	\$0.00	\$1,219.00
Mrs. Smith, Constance (220183)	Rcpt. #354138 - Pat. payment of \$1219.00 credited by CHECK - Personal Check #	-\$1,219.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Account Payment Summary as on 7/2/2026

	0 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	90 +	Total	Contract Bal	Rem. Cont. Amt
Pat. Due	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ins. Due	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		

paid

AG.

RECEIVED
 2026 JUL 21 A 11:16
 CITY CLERK
 FALL RIVER, MA
 #26-12913



RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2026 JUL 10 A 11:16

1. Claimant's name: Kimberly Valletta CITY CLERK #26-130
FALL RIVER, MA
2. Claimant's complete address: 91 Bowen St, Fall River, MA 02724
3. Telephone number: Home: 774-488-1537 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
damage to sewer line
5. Date and time of accident: 5/16/26 Amount of damages claimed: \$ 15,986.34
6. Exact location of the Incident: (include as much detail as possible):
91 Bowen St, Fall River, MA 02724
7. Circumstances of the Incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
Feeney Brothers was performing work to replace gas line in front of my house. On 5/8/26 it was determined that my sewer line was damaged directly under the gas line that was replaced. This caused damage to basement when the sewerage overflowed into basement on 5/16/26
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Zurich American (Feeney Brothers) Universal Property (Homeowners)

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 7/8/26

Claimant's signature: Kimberly Valletta

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to: City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator

Water
sewer

Date: 7/10/26



RECEIVED

2026 JUL 15 P 3:51

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

CITY CLERK #26-131
FALL RIVER, MA

1. Claimant's name: Brenda Cardoza
2. Claimant's complete address: 111 Brayton Ave. Apt. 1
3. Telephone number: Home: 508-264-2129 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Fell on a Public Side Walk
5. Date and time of accident: 6/24/26 / 1:00 pm Amount of damages claimed: \$ _____
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
I was walking on Brayton Ave and Fell on a broken side walk, 121 Brayton Ave
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
My granddaughter and I, were going to take a walk, it was about 1:00 in the afternoon my sandal hit a piece of the side walk that was broken and my sandal got caught and I fell. I fell outside of 121 Brayton Ave
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama 450 Riverchase Parkway East Birmingham, Alabama 35244

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: July 6, 2026 Claimant's signature: Brenda Cardoza

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:	
Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☒ DCM	Date: <u>7/16/26</u>



23

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 17 A 11:25

1. Claimant's name: Robin Rego
2. Claimant's complete address: 50 High st. Assonet, MA 02702 CITY CLERK #26-132
FALL RIVER, MA
3. Telephone number: Home: (401)263-8397 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Property Damage. Laptop broken and Laptop cooling fan
5. Date and time of accident: 06/25/26 2100 to 2200 Amount of damages claimed: \$ 701.98 plus tax
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
Under stretcher using to transport me in ambulance
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
See Attached page please
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 7/9/26

Claimant's signature: [Signature]

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☐ City Clerk ☒ Law ☐ City Council ☐ City Administrator

☒

ems

Date: 7/17/26

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 P 1:20

1. Claimant's name: Alexandra Espinal CITY CLERK #26-133
2. Claimant's complete address: 60 Ledgeview Way Apt 3102 Wrentham MA 02093
3. Telephone number: Home: 470-981-1124 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Lower front bumper damage
5. Date and time of accident: Sat 07/18/2026 Amount of damages claimed: \$ \$1,394.20
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
Tucker Street entrance to plaza on side in front Harbor Freight Tools
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
I am not a resident of Fall River, not aware of pothole, and new patient for dream dental located in the plaza. Entering plaza wheel became stuck in pothole, as I attempted to drive out of the pothole, my bumper scraped against the inclined pavement. Clips broke off completely, and now, bumper needs to be replaced.
I am not a resident of fall river, MA. Not aware of pothole/sewer cover. New patient at Dream Dental. Entering plaza wheel became stuck in pothole, I attempted to pull out, bumper hit incline. Brackets broke.
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 07/21/2026

Claimant's signature: Alexandra Espinal

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☐ DPN

Date: 7/22/26



23

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 22 P 2:17

1. Claimant's name: Cherice Alejandro
2. Claimant's complete address: 529 Warren St FALL RIVER, MA 02722
3. Telephone number: Home (774) 688-3550 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Fall on public way
5. Date and time of accident: 6/24/26 9am Amount of damages claimed: \$ _____
6. Exact location of the incident: (Include as much detail as possible):
Cross walk at Warren St & Smith St.
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
I was crossing the street to get into my ride share
stepped off the curb into a hole in the street.
My ankle came out from under me I heard a crack
I fell to my knees in the middle of the street it was
witnessed by ride share driver & sister in law.
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 7/28/26

Claimant's signature: Cherice Alejandro

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to: City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☐ Law ☐ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☒ DPW

Date: 7/28/26

23

BUCKLEY DESROSIERS
& ASSOCIATES P.C.

STAGIE E. NYE-BUCKLEY, ESQ. NATALIE A. DESROSIERS, ESQ. ROSANNE LEAVITT, ESQ.

December 22, 2025

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL 7022 1670 0002 1847 5745
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

City of Fall River
Attn: City Clerk
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

RECEIVED
JUL 23 A 10:30
CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA
#26135

RE: Our Client: David C. LaPointe

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter of presentment is being sent to you pursuant to M.G.L. c. 258:34. Please be advised that this office represents David C. LaPointe of 258 Bowen Street, Fall River, MA 02724 with regard to injuries sustained and damages incurred as a result of an incident involving the Fall River Police Department on November 29, 2025.

On that date Officers from the Fall River Police Department broke down the door of Mr. LaPointe's home at approximately 3:30 AM without justification causing severe emotional trauma to our client.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with regard to this matter.

Sincerely,

Natalie Desrosiers
Natalie Desrosiers, Esq.

161 Lindsey Street, Fall River, MA 02720

TELEPHONE: 508-222-3132 | BDALAWOFFICE.COM | FACSIMILE: 508-222-3356

23

Erika Giesel
APM / Safety Coordinator
C: 508-250-7739 P: 508-559-8400 F: 508-559-6432
254 Pleasant St. West Bridgewater, MA 02379
EGiesel@dallessandro.com
www.dallessandro.com



RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2026 JUL 23 P 2:42

1. Claimant's name: Dallessandro Corp. CITY CLERK #26-136
2. Claimant's complete address: 254 Pleasant St. W. Bridgewater MA 02379
3. Telephone number: Home: _____ Work: 508-250-7739
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Auto occurrence on public way, damaged vehicle
5. Date and time of accident: 6/23/26 Amount of damages claimed: \$ _____
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):

7. Circumstances of the Incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
Manhole cover was in the roadway, it damaged our vehicle and our driver put the cap back on the sewer where it belonged
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 7/7/2026

Claimant's signature: Erika Giesel

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd FL., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☐ PCM

Date: 7/23/26

23

#26-137



RECEIVED

City of Fall River

Notice of Claim

2026 JUL 23 P 3:25

1. Claimant's name: Progressive Direct Insurance Company A/S/O GRANDY, KAYLA J
2. Claimant's complete address: CITY CLERK FALL RIVER, MA PO BOX 94639 CLEVELAND, OH 44101
3. Telephone number: Home: 877-818-0139 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
AUTO ACCIDENT-
5. Date and time of accident: 03/08/2026, 07:30 PM ET Amount of damages claimed: \$ 6,917.64
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
50 PICKERING ST, 02720 FALL RIVER, MA USA
7. Circumstances of the Incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
OUR INSURED'S VEHICLE WAS PARKED AT 50 PICKERING ST, IN FALL RIVER, MA WHEN A CITY OF FALL RIVER FD VEHICLE, WITH PLATE #: MFC889 OPERATED BY NATHANIAL OLSON, FAILED TO MAINTAIN PROPER LOOKOUT AND STRUCK OUR INSURED'S PARKED VEHICLE. WE ARE SEEKING REIMBURSEMENT FOR OUR INSURED'S VEHICLE DAMAGES

8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Progressive Direct Insurance Company- PO BOX 94639 CLEVELAND, OH 44101 - 877-818-0139

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 7/16/26

Claimant's signature:

Alegan McCallum

Progressive Direct Insurance Company
SUBROGATION SPECIALIST

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☐ Law ☐ City Council ☐ City Administrator

DCM

Date: 07/23/2026



23

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 28 P 1:17

1. Claimant's name: Kimberly O'Connell
2. Claimant's complete address: 45 Stowe St, Fall River, MA 02720
3. Telephone number: Home: 774-994-5137 Work: FALL RIVER, MA
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
Hit & run Auto Accident - (negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees)
5. Date and time of accident: Jan 18-19, 2026 Amount of damages claimed: \$ ~~1300~~ 1437.07
6. Exact location of the incident: (Include as much detail as possible):
45 Stowe St, Fall River, MA Snow plow struck side mirror and damaged it, needs to be replaced
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
Snow storm Jan 18-19, 2026 Car mirror was intact in the early evening of Jan 18.
Jan. 19 when I went to leave I noticed that my drivers side mirror was damaged.
I called the police to report it. I believe sometime over night when the street was plowed
the plow truck struck my mirror and did not stop to report it (Hit & Run)
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 4/15/2026

Claimant's signature: Kimberly O'Connell

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to: City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☐ DCM

Date: 7/28/26



RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2026 JUL 28 P 1:15

#26-139

1. Claimant's name: Maria Bouchard CITY CLERK: FALL RIVER, MA 02790
2. Claimant's complete address: P.O. BOX 3994 WESTPORT MA 02790
3. Telephone number: Home: 508 523-0134 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
PROPERTY DAMAGE MY CAR CITY WORKER WEED WACKING
BROKE MY WINDOW
5. Date and time of accident: JULY 23, 2026 Amount of damages claimed: \$ 342.00
6. Exact location of the incident: (Include as much detail as possible):
EASTERN AVE AT STOP LIGHT WHERE THE OLD
NIGHT OWL IS
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
A CITY WORKER WEED WACKING HIT A
ROCK BROKE MY BACK DRIVERS SIDE
WINDOW
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: JULY 28, 2026 Claimant's signature: Maria Bouchard

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk

☒ Law

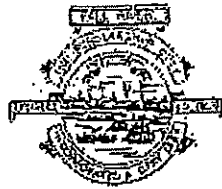
☐ City Council

☐ City Administrator

☐ DCM

Date:

7/28/26



RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2026 JUL 29 A 9:42

1. Claimant's name: Eric R Corey H26-140
2. Claimant's complete address: 925 COUNTRY ST FALL RIVER MA CITY CLERK
3. Telephone number: Home: 774223 8235 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
A Fire truck Hit my car
5. Date and time of accident: 07/25/26 Amount of damages claimed: \$ _____
6. Exact location of the Incident: (include as much detail as possible):
EARL ST
7. Circumstances of the Incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
I was asleep in my home came out to my bumper hanging off my car the light broken and scratched down the side called cops they said a fire truck did it
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☒ Yes ☐ No
my Progressive Doesnt Have Collision

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 7/29/26 Claimant's signature: [Signature]

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:	
Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☒ FIRE	Date: <u>7/29/26</u>



City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 29 P 1:23

CITY CLERK #26-141
FALL RIVER, MA

1. Claimant's name: Calvin A. Zeigler
2. Claimant's complete address: P.O. Box 4055 Fall River MA 02724
3. Telephone number: Home: 774 9554889 Work: _____
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
PROPERTY LOSS
5. Date and time of accident: 5pm 5/22/26 Amount of damages claimed: \$ \$460.00
6. Exact location of the Incident: (Include as much detail as possible):
379 LINDSEY ST ON TOP OF POLICE OFFICERS CAR
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
VICTIM OF A VIOLENT CRIME OFFICERS MISPLACED
PROPERTY WHILE SECURING ME
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 6/29/26

Claimant's signature: Calvin A. Zeigler

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to: City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☐ City Clerk ☐ Law ☐ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☐ _____ Date: _____



23

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

RECEIVED

2026 JUL 30 A 11: 25

1. Claimant's name: FLAVIO De ALMEIDA # 26-142
2. Claimant's complete address: 98 KNIGHT ST. FALL RIVER, MA 02723
3. Telephone number: Home: 508-916-8266 Work: N/A.
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
PROPERTY DAMAGE - A VEHICLE LEGALLY PARKED
5. Date and time of accident: 8:00 A.M. Amount of damages claimed: \$ 2,452.64
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
7/22/2026
240 MCGOWEN ST
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
MY VEHICLE WAS PARKED WHEN SWEEPER BOE TO CLOSE THE DIAMOND PLATE STEEL STEP SIDESWIPE MY VEHICLE AND BOTTOM SWEEPER APPARATUS BRUSHED AND COLLIDED WITH BUMPER
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge

Date: 7/30/2026

Claimant's signature: Flavio De Almeida

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to: City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☒ City Council ☒ City Administrator ☒ DCM

Date: 07/30/2026



23

RECEIVED

City of Fall River
Notice of Claim

2026 JUL 31 A 10:26

1. Claimant's name: DAVID STEELE CITY CLERK #26-143
2. Claimant's complete address: 32 CARR ST FALL RIVER, MA 02723
3. Telephone number: Home: 781-589-4848 Work: 267-361-5249
4. Nature of claim: (e.g., auto accident, slip and fall on public way or property damage):
AUTO DAMAGE DUE TO RAISED Manhole on a UNPAVED/Construction ROAD
5. Date and time of accident: 6pm 7-19-26 Amount of damages claimed: \$ 3723
6. Exact location of the incident: (include as much detail as possible):
BEDFORD ST at 10th st
7. Circumstances of the incident: (attach additional pages if necessary):
RAINY NIGHT WITH FLOODED STREET, RAISED Manhole COVER UNSEEN DUE TO WATER, BEDFORD ST IS Construction WITH milled ROAD, NOT yet NEW PAVED and all manholes are RAISED, CAUSED Damage to UNDER my DODGE Challenger From impact FROM DRIVING on BEDFORD ST FALL RIVER at 10th st
8. Have you submitted a claim to any insurance company for damages arising from this incident? If so, name and address of insurance company: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Be sure to attach the original of any bills issued or any written estimates of repair or replacement costs. (Any documents that you provide will become the property of the City of Fall River; therefore, please retain copies of any such documents for your files.) Attach any other information you believe will be helpful in the processing of your claim (for example, names and addresses of any witnesses, written medical records if personal injury was sustained).

I swear that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 7-24-2026

Claimant's signature: David Steele

WHEN TO FILE: If your claim is based on a defect in a public way, you must file within 30 days of the incident. If your claim is based on the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or its employees, you must file within two years of the incident. PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Return this from to : City Clerk, 2nd Fl., One Government Center, Fall River, MA 02722

You should consult with your own attorney in preparing this claim form to understand your legal rights. The Office of the Corporation Counsel is unable to provide legal assistance to private citizens.

For official use only:

Copies forwarded to: ☒ City Clerk ☒ Law ☐ City Council ☐ City Administrator ☒ DCM

Date: 07/31/2026



— LAW OFFICES OF —
RONALD J. RESMINI
 — LTD —
 THE FIRM THAT WROTE THE BOOK ON PERSONAL INJURY

July 30, 2026

City of Fall River
Attn: City Clerk
One Government Center, 2nd Floor
Fall River, MA 02722

Re: Presentment of Claim Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 258, § 4
 Claimant: Jessica Ortiz
 Date of Loss: July 19, 2026
 Location: Westbound travel lane within crosswalk in the vicinity of 1262 Brayton Avenue, Fall River, Massachusetts

Notice of Claim – Massachusetts Tort Claims Act (M.G.L. c. 258, § 4)

Dear Honorable City Clerk:

Please accept this correspondence as a formal presentation of claim pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 258, Section 4, on behalf of our client, Jessica Ortiz, arising out of catastrophic personal injuries she sustained on July 19, 2026, while utilizing the marked westbound crosswalk in the vicinity of 1262 Brayton Avenue, Fall River, Massachusetts. See attached Fall River Police Report.

Based upon the information presently available, Ms. Ortiz was crossing Brayton Avenue within or immediately adjacent to the designated crosswalk when she was struck by a motor vehicle. Preliminary investigation indicates that the collision was not solely the result of the actions of the involved motorist but was also caused or substantially contributed to by dangerous conditions existing within the public way and the municipality's failure to properly inspect, maintain, and remedy those conditions.

Specifically, our investigation has revealed evidence that vegetation, brush, shrubs, trees, weeds, and other foliage located within or immediately adjacent to the roadway and crosswalk had become overgrown to such an extent that they obstructed or substantially impaired the line of sight available to motorists approaching the crosswalk as well as pedestrians attempting to observe approaching traffic. The overgrown vegetation significantly reduced the visibility of persons lawfully utilizing the crosswalk and created an unreasonably dangerous condition for

365 EDDY STREET, 2ND FLOOR, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

41 MINK STREET, SEEKONK, MASSACHUSETTS 02771

● RHODE ISLAND * MASSACHUSETTS ♦ CONNECTICUT + FLORIDA Δ WASHINGTON, D.C. ■ NEW YORK

◆ BOARD EXAMINER NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY (1991) ◆ MASSACHUSETTS SENIOR ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR 2010

◆ RHODE ISLAND HALL OF FAME 2020

City
Rhode Island Hall of Fame



- ♦♦♦ RONALD J. RESMINI
- ♦♦♦ R. JASON RESMINI, MBA
- ♦♦♦ ADAM J. RESMINI
- ♦♦♦ ANDREW O. RESMINI
- ♦ CHARLES N. GARABEDIAN

— LAW OFFICES OF —
RONALD J. RESMINI
 — LTD —
 THE FIRM THAT WROTE THE BOOK ON PERSONAL INJURY

401-444-4444
 508-999-9999
 FAX: (401) 228-6577
 RESMINI@RESMINILAW.COM

July 30, 2026

Via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
 #: 70222410000312538671

City of Fall River
 Attn: City Clerk
 One Government Center, 2nd Floor
 Fall River, MA 02722

RECEIVED
 2026 AUG -5 A 8:49
 CITY CLERK # 210-1444
 FALL RIVER, MA

Re: Notice of Defect Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 84, §18
 Claimant: Jessica Ortiz
 Date of Loss: July 19, 2026
 Location: Westbound travel lane within crosswalk in the vicinity of 1262 Brayton Avenue, Fall River, Massachusetts

Statutory Notice of Defect – M.G.L. c. 84, § 18

Dear City Clerk:

Please take notice pursuant to M.G.L. c. 84, § 18 that on July 19, 2026, at approximately 9:15 p.m., Jessica Ortiz (1488 Pleasant Street, Apt. 2E, Fall River, MA) sustained catastrophic personal injuries while crossing Brayton Avenue in Fall River, MA in the vicinity of 1264 Brayton Avenue, Fall River, MA, due to a defective condition of the way. More specifically that vegetation, brush, shrubs, trees, weeds, and other foliage located within or immediately adjacent to the roadway and crosswalk had become overgrown to such an extent that they obstructed or substantially impaired the line of sight available to motorists approaching the crosswalk as well as pedestrians attempting to observe approaching traffic. See attached photographs approaching the crosswalk/area in question. The overgrowth vegetation significantly reduced the visibility of persons lawfully utilizing the crosswalk and created an unreasonably dangerous condition for members of the traveling public.

The undersigned provides this notice within thirty days as required by statute.

Very Truly Yours,

Andrew O. Resmini, Esq.

Attorney for Injured Claimant, Jessica Ortiz

AOR/aor 365 EDDY STREET, 2ND FLOOR, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903
 41 MINK STREET, SEEKONK, MASSACHUSETTS 02771

- ♦ RHODE ISLAND ♦ MASSACHUSETTS ♦ CONNECTICUT ♦ FLORIDA ♦ WASHINGTON, D.C. ♦ NEW YORK
- ♦ BOARD EXAMINER NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY (1991) ♦ MASSACHUSETTS SENIOR ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR 2010
- ♦ RHODE ISLAND HALL OF FAME 2020

tyclerk

city clerk ✓ Dept ✓

to whom it may concern,

We do not have an out of town Cab Company, our Cab Company is for Citizens of Fall River, my mother recently took a Cab and the driver informed her that if they were to get a better call with better fare they were going to leave her waiting. They have been telling people that the fares are better out of town, then ripping people off, they never have change or they give odd stories, I have a list of people from my area that haven't been able to get Cabs sometimes for up to 2 wks, they keep saying "I don't have Cabs, all day".

TO DO

M T W T F S S

they have wanted much
Cable Calls, its types
then up, we clearly
need another Cable
Company, they are Rice Co.
and only want to take
Citizens people. what
happened to all the Cars
from town to us.

A very concerned
Citizen who hopes
the new mayor
does something

25



OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

RECEIVED

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

2026 AUG -5 A 8: 08

Your Contact Information:

First Name: Collin

Last Name: Dias

CITY CLERK
FALL RIVER, MA

Address: 560 Ray Street

City: Fall River

State: MA

Zip Code: 02720

Phone Number: 7747076790

Ext. _____

Email: Cdias@fallriverschools.org

Organization or Media Affiliation (If any): _____

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?

(For statistical purposes only)

☒ Individual

☐ Organization

☐ Media

Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:

☒ City/Town

☐ County

☐ Regional/District

☐ State

Name of Public Body (Including city/
town, county or region, if applicable): Fall River City Council

Specific person(s), if any, you allege
committed the violation: _____

Date of alleged violation: 7/28/26

25

Description of alleged violation:

Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

See attached.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

An independent investigation into the matter.
A public Apology from Mr. Rumsey.
The City Council adopt rules of conduct.

Review, sign, and submit your complaint

I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.

Public Record. Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, is considered a public record and will be available to any member of the public upon request.

Publication to Website. As part of the Open Data Initiative, the AGO will publish to its website certain information regarding your complaint, including your name and the name of the public body. The AGO will not publish your contact information.

II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.

The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.

The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to openmeeting@state.ma.us.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: Coleen R. Diaz

Date: 8/4/26



Submitted by Collin Dias as part of Open Meeting Law Complaint.

ATTACHED:

I attended the July 28, 2026 Fall River City Council meeting in my capacity as an elected member of the Fall River School Committee. Although I was participating as an individual member and did not claim to speak for or bind the School Committee as a body, my attendance and intended testimony were directly related to my official responsibilities.

School Committee Policy BBA identifies the adoption of a budget sufficient to carry out the School Committee's policies as one of the Committee's principal responsibilities. It also identifies public relations, keeping the public informed about the schools, and remaining informed about the needs and wishes of the community as important functions of the Committee.

Policy BBAA states that an individual member has a duty to maintain knowledge of the schools' goals, objectives, and programs; vote and act impartially for the good of students; and represent the Committee and the schools to the public in a manner that promotes interest and support. It also requires a member "to accept the will of the majority vote in all cases, and to remember that he/she is one of a team and must abide by, and carry out, all Committee decisions once they are made."

Policy BCA further provides that a School Committee member's primary responsibility is to the children and that a member represents the entire community at all times. Because the School Committee had voted to approve the budget, my attendance and intended testimony were consistent with my responsibility to support and carry out that decision and advocate for the interests of the students and school community.

On July 28, 2026, I attended a meeting of the Fall River City Council in my capacity as a member of the Fall River School Committee. I intended to participate in public input and speak in support of the School Department budget.

This incident took place in the City Council Hearing Room. Immediately before the meeting began, Fall River Corporation Counsel Alan Rumsey was present in the Hearing Room, presumably in his official capacity as Corporation Counsel and in connection with the memorandum of understanding scheduled for discussion by the City Council.

Mr. Rumsey approached me in a stern and confrontational manner regarding a private matter unrelated to the orderly conduct of the meeting. As he approached, he asked, "Is this you?" while apparently referring to a Facebook meme that he believed I may have posted.

Mr. Rumsey positioned himself immediately beside me and partially in or near my only reasonable path of travel from where I was seated. At the time, I had intended to get up and use the restroom before the meeting began. Because of his positioning and the confrontation that followed, I was unable to do so without attempting to pass directly by him. By the time the interaction ended, the meeting was about to begin, and I did not want to leave and miss any part of the proceedings.

During the interaction, Mr. Rumsey told me, "I will find out." I presumed this was in relation to who made the meme. I asked him, "Is that a threat?" Mr. Rumsey responded, "It just might be." Multiple witnesses were present and observed or heard the interaction.

Considering Mr. Rumsey's stern approach, his partial obstruction of my path of travel, and his response after I directly asked whether he was threatening me, I felt threatened, intimidated, and in fear of my safety. The incident interfered with my ability to move freely within and leave the meeting area immediately before a public meeting.

I believe the City Council failed to ensure reasonable and unobstructed public access to its meeting when an official present in connection with Council business confronted and intimidated an attendee and partially obstructed that attendee's reasonable path of travel immediately before the meeting.

I also left the meeting early, in part to avoid Mr. Rumsey because I feared for my safety. I also fear retaliation for filing this complaint, which I file in my official capacity as a School Committee member because I attended the meeting in my official capacity as a School Committee member when this incident took place, carrying out official responsibilities as stated in the Fall River Public Schools Policy Manual.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS

MEETING: July 14, 2026 at 5:55 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Cliff A. Ponte, presiding;
Councilors Shawn E. Cadime, Joseph D. Camara, Michael G. Canuel,
Michelle M. Dionne, Christopher M. Peckham, Sr., Linda M. Pereira
and Andrew J. Raposo

ABSENT: Councilor Paul B. Hart

IN ATTENDANCE: None

The President called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m. and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium and that the purpose of the hearing was to hear all persons interested and wishing to be heard on the following:

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to open the hearings, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Curb Removals

1. Timothy R. Long, 1343 Newhall Street, for the removal of curbing as follows:

	Existing Opening	Curbing to be Removed	Curbing to be Added	Combined Opening Proposed After Alteration
677 Meridian Street	15'	9' 1"	0'	24' 1"

The existing parcel was previously served by a 15-foot curb opening/driveway. The applicant requests permission to extend the existing opening by an addition 9 feet, 1 inch. The total opening for the location will be 24 feet, 1 inch. This is an after-the-fact submission. The work was performed without the required permitting.

The President asked if any proponents were present, and no one came forward. The President then asked if any opponents were present, and no one came forward.

2. Glenn J. Hathaway, 46 Bowen Street, for the removal of curbing as follows:

	Existing Opening	Curbing to be Removed	Curbing to be Added	Combined Opening Proposed After Alteration
46 Bowen Street	25' 11"	16'	0'	41' 11"

The existing parcel was previously served by a 25-foot, 11-inch, curb opening/driveway. The applicant requests permission to create an additional 16-foot curb opening/driveway. The total opening for the location will be 41 feet, 11 inches.

The President asked if any proponents were present, and no one came forward. The President then asked if any opponents were present, and no one came forward.

3. Joshua Rodrigues, 840 Rodman Street, for the removal of curbing as follows:

	Existing Opening	Curbing to be Removed	Curbing to be Added	Combined Opening Proposed After Alteration
840 Rodman Street	16'	7'	0'	23'

The existing parcel is currently served by a 16-foot curb opening/driveway. The applicant proposes to extend the existing opening by an additional 7 feet, westerly. The total opening for the location will be 23 feet.

The President asked if any proponents were present, and no one came forward. The President then asked if any opponents were present, and no one came forward.

Second Hand Article Store

4. Connor Vendituoli d/b/a Decked Out Trading Cards LLC, 1054 Wilson Road, Fall River, MA, 02720, for permission to operate and maintain a second hand article store located at 1665 South Main Street (trading cards to be sold).

The President asked if any proponents were present, and no one came forward. The President then asked if any opponents were present, and no one came forward.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted to close the hearings, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:02 p.m., with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda (attached)

A true copy. Attest:

Onés da Silva Paulino Leite
City Clerk

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEETING: July 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Cliff A. Ponte, presiding;
Councilors Shawn E. Cadime, Joseph D. Camara, Michael G. Canuel,
Michelle M. Dionne, Christopher M. Peckham, Sr., Linda M. Pereira
and Andrew J. Raposo

ABSENT: Councilor Paul B. Hart

IN ATTENDANCE: Ann O'Neil-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff
Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services
Al Oliveira, Director of City Operations
Christopher Hathaway, Director of Community Maintenance

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

In accordance with a resolution adopted, as amended May 8, 2012, persons are allowed to address the Council for a period of three minutes prior to the beginning or at the conclusion of business in the Committee on Finance.

Presentation of Citations

• Jeffrey Sarnecky – Outstanding support of veterans in need
Councilor Peckham made brief remarks commending the volunteer work of Jeffrey Sarnecky for veterans in need and presented the citation. Mr. Sarnecky expressed appreciation and commended those who assist him with the services provided to local veterans.

1. Citizen Input

Ian Tompkins, 636 Rock Street – Zoning Amendment
Vice President Dionne and Councilor Pereira held a brief discussion with Mr. Tompkins regarding their concerns in relation to the proposed zoning amendment, as it was submitted to assist Mr. Tompkins with renovations to his property, instead of submitting a variance request to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Vice President Dionne and Councilor Pereira both stated that residents within this neighborhood have expressed opposition to the proposed zoning amendment.

Alex Silva, 148 Purchase Street – 158 Bedford Street, Central Police Station

2. Resolution – Convene with the Director of Financial Services, the Director of City Operations and the Interim Director of Community Maintenance for updates on the Administration's planning for residential solid waste and recycling collection. Councilor Canuel requested additional information regarding the pending contract for solid waste disposal services. Ann O'Neil-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff, explained that the agreement is currently in a 90-day delay due to the City's lack of a Fiscal Year 2027 budget, but that it is a two-year contract with a one-year cost guarantee. Councilor Canuel requested that the Administration provide the City Councilors with the total projected cost of the contract and explained that his goal was to compare the cost of the proposed contract with the potential cost of the City performing the solid waste collection services instead of hiring outside companies. Councilor Canuel also expressed concern that short-term contracts often result in fewer bids and higher prices, as there is no incentive for companies to compete for such a short agreement.

Ms. O'Neil-Souza emphasized that improper recycling habits result in significantly increased costs for the City and that the proposed ordinance related to limiting solid waste collection to properties containing no more than four units will also assist in lowering the total expenditure on these services. Ms. O'Neil-Souza explained that the first year of the contract will total approximately \$5,086,468. Councilor Canuel asked if establishing additional enforcement measures for proper disposal would reduce the cost of solid waste collection. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that the collection cost would remain the same, but the extra fees for diverting waste would be lower with improved collection efficiency. Councilor Canuel expressed concern that the costs for this type of service could significantly increase after the short period of this contract due to changing market rates, but Ms. O'Neil-Souza explained that this could result in more flexibility for the City to find a lower-cost vendor sooner. Councilor Canuel and Ms. O'Neil-Souza held a brief discussion regarding the City's former Pay-as-You-Throw program and how the discontinuance of this program negatively affected the previous contract due to the decreased revenue generated by the sale of the trash bags.

Al Oliveira, Director of City Operations, explained that the Tuesday and Thursday collection routes often have the highest level of contaminated recycling but are slowly improving with extended recycling education, and that this progress may result in lower costs in the future for collection services. Councilor Canuel expressed concern that these savings cannot be guaranteed and that the short contract resulted in a very low number of bids and limited price competition.

Councilor Cadime agreed with Councilor Canuel and asked if the City's solid waste collection program would be significantly changed within the next three years. Mr. Oliveira stated that the Administration is considering numerous changes, but no decisions have been made. Councilor Cadime stated that without finalized changes, there is no guarantee that the City would achieve significant savings using the current approach with such a short-term contract.

Councilor Pereira expressed concern regarding the discontinuance of the Pay-as-You-Throw program and stated that individuals from other cities and towns travel to Fall River to dispose of items at family members' homes to avoid paying fees in their own municipalities. Councilor Pereira also expressed concern regarding the proposed ordinance that would eliminate collection services for all properties containing more than four housing units, as this would result in trash being left on the sidewalks or unsightly dumpsters being used. Councilor Pereira stated that many property owners have reached out to her, as they are unable to find a private company that would provide disposal services to their properties. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that she would work to develop a list of private waste disposal companies that would be available to serve the larger residential properties and explained that the Board of Health is responsible for regulating the use and location of dumpsters.

Councilor Peckham expressed concern regarding illegal apartments that result in overcrowding and large quantities of solid waste and recycling. Ms. O'Neil-Souza explained that the City could regulate collection services only based on the listed unit number for each property, and that it cannot verify the number of occupants within each unit. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that overcrowded units should be reported to Code Enforcement for inspections.

Councilor Peckham and Christopher Hathaway, Director of Community Maintenance, discussed possible methods to allow large property owners to dispose of bulky items at the Lewiston Street garage location. Mr. Hathaway stated that he would review the City ordinances to determine if this allowance was permissible. Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services, explained that the City does not generate a large amount of revenue from bulky item pick-up fees, and that the Administration will review the existing fees and consider increasing them to match surrounding municipalities.

Councilor Peckham, Mr. Oliveira, and Ms. Arpke discussed the Request for Proposals (RFPs) process, methods that could be implemented to increase vendor participation, and the possibility of the City of Fall River providing solid waste collection services using City employees and trucks. Mr. Oliveira stated that numerous contractors had been notified of the RFP, but only two had submitted bids. Ms. Arpke stated that implementing collection fees would be more beneficial than having the City perform the collection services in-house due to the liabilities that would be associated with that type of work. Mr. Oliveira stated that there have been discussions regarding the City collecting yard waste to reduce contractual costs. Councilor Peckham stated that implementing trash collection fees would place a financial burden on the taxpayers of Fall River and may result in more illegal dumping. Ms. Arpke explained that Fall River's current bulky item fees are very low compared to nearby communities. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that the Administration is exploring additional recycling and bulky item restrictions that may assist in reducing disposal costs.

Councilor Raposo and the Director of City Operations discussed the discontinuance of the Pilot Cardboard Collection Program. Mr. Oliveira stated that the City saw no financial benefits and that he is working with outside counsel to determine when the program will cease. Mr. Hathaway clarified that the collection containers used for this program will be collected by the City and reused for other purposes. Councilor Raposo suggested that the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation review the proposed ordinance regarding the limitations of solid waste collection for properties with more than four units and stated that a three-strike enforcement policy should be considered. Councilor Raposo also explained that input from the Director of Health and Human Services would be valuable, as solid waste left on sidewalks or not collected properly can increase health risks.

Councilor Cadime suggested that the City should charge larger properties an extra collection fee while continuing to provide municipal collection, as the trash and recycling trucks are already traveling down all streets to collect from smaller properties. Councilor Cadime emphasized that this would increase revenue while reducing the risk of solid waste and recycling not being disposed of properly. Councilor Cadime also stated that most other municipalities do not perform in-house collection services anymore, as it is not financially beneficial.

Councillor Canuel asked if the City had received any feedback from vendors who had reviewed the RFP but not submitted a bid. Ms. Arpke stated that she would review the procurement records and provide that information as soon as possible. Councillor Canuel also provided information regarding a property owner who had reached out to him regarding their six-unit structure and stated that this property owner was quoted over \$300 per barrel per quarter for collection by a private company. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that this cost seems unusually high and explained that providing exceptions to the proposed ordinance would complicate the collection process. Ms. O'Neil-Souza also explained that, if the proposed ordinance was passed and ordained, the collection containers for these larger properties would be collected immediately following their last solid waste pick-up.

A discussion was held between Councillor Canuel, Mr. Hathaway, and Ms. Arpke regarding the discontinuation of bulky item sticker purchases at Government Center. Mr. Hathaway stated that, due to staffing shortages, distribution at multiple locations was no longer practical and that the service is now available only at the Lewiston Street garage. Mr. Hathaway also provided information regarding an online program that is being implemented to eliminate the need for these stickers in the future and allow for electronic payments. Ms. Arpke clarified that this online program is already in place for other departments and will be implemented soon. Councillor Canuel suggested that another office within Government Center could provide bulky item sticker purchases. Mr. Hathaway explained that many residents print the form from the City's website and mail in their payments, but that he would consider discussing this matter with other offices. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that eliminating the stickers would simplify the scheduling and improve coordination with the contracted disposal company.

Councillor Camara stated that solid waste collection costs have been a significant issue in Fall River for a very long time and suggested offering continued pick-up to large owner-occupied properties and increasing the enforcement of fines when violations occur. Councillor Camara expressed concern as to how some of these properties would arrange for collection, as the driveways may be too narrow for dumpster collection. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that private companies that provide dumpsters also provide collection containers, which could be used for properties with challenging driveway access. Ms. O'Neil-Souza also explained that the City would face challenges in confirming whether properties are owner-occupied or whether the owner is simply using the property as a mailing address, and Ms. Arpke agreed.

Vice President Dionne expressed concern regarding access to the Lewiston Street garage, as there has been ongoing construction which creates challenges for those trying to drive large items in for disposal. Mr. Oliveira explained that he has been working with the construction contractors to minimize this issue and will continue to monitor this matter. Vice President Dionne and Ms. O'Neil-Souza discussed the solid waste contract cost estimates and how these costs may vary in the coming years. The Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff explained that collection costs would remain static, but that changes in disposal tonnage could assist with lowering the total expenditure for the City. Vice President Dionne asked for additional information regarding residents who may need additional barrels, and Ms. O'Neil-Souza explained that additional carts could be made available for an additional fee. Ms. Arpke noted that any changes to the level of service specified in the RFP could affect the cost of the contract.

Councillor Raposo suggested that the proposed ordinance related to solid waste could be referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation for further discussion and review. Ms. O'Neil-Souza explained that the negotiated contract that is currently pending is based on performing trash pick-up only for properties containing four residential units or fewer. Mr. Oliveira emphasized that the objective of the current proposed ordinance is to reduce disposal costs. The Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff agreed and stated that large multi-family homes contribute significantly to the City's solid waste disposal expenses.

On a motion made by Councillor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to table the resolution, with Councillor Hart absent and not voting.

3. Transfers and appropriations

Councillor Cadime and Ann O'Neil-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff, held a detailed discussion regarding the creation of a new Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) Access Special Revenue account, the requirements for this account within the Massachusetts General Laws, and the current financial methods utilized to fund the Fall River Educational Television (FREDTV) and Fall River Governmental Television (FRGTV) programs. Ms. O'Neil-Souza clarified that the television programs are currently being funded by the School Department and that, once a PEG Access Special Revenue account is created, the School Department would continue to determine the appropriate use of the funding in accordance with the state's requirements. Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services, explained that the existing budget for these programs is funded primarily through user fees and that the proposed figures within the transfer and appropriation order were based on the previous year's revenue collections.

Councillor Cadime requested that the School Committee submit future financial requests regarding the use of the PEG Access funds and noted that cable subscriptions will continue to decline and that this funding will not be reliable long-term. Councillor Cadime and Ms. Arpke discussed the effective date for this new financial account and the information provided to the Director of Financial Services by a representative of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR). Ms. Arpke stated that this representative had confirmed that the account could go into effect in July, although that is incongruent with the written protocol. Councillor Cadime emphasized the need to obtain this instruction from the Massachusetts DOR in writing to avoid any challenges with future appropriations for this fund. Ms. Arpke also stated that the School Department did confirm that, while this account is being created, it will continue to provide adequate funding to avoid any interruption in television services for FREDTV and FRGTV.

President Ponte noted that the financial order references Fiscal Year 2027, which began on July 1, 2026. Councillor Cadime expressed concern regarding this date, as the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services advises that this funding may not be available until calendar year 2027. Councillor Cadime also questioned whether the appropriations should occur before this matter is confirmed. Ms. Arpke reiterated that she could reconfirm this matter with the Massachusetts DOR.

Councilor Peckham and Ms. Arpke discussed the proposed transfer of funding to the Fire Department, Salaries account from various accounts. Councilor Peckham requested clarification regarding the City's receipt of additional state funding to assist with hiring additional firefighters following the Gabriel House Assisted Living Facility fire in July 2025. Ms. Arpke explained that there was confusion regarding this funding, as news sources stated that the City of Fall River would be receiving additional funding, and that this was not accurate. The Director of Financial Services clarified that the City received state funding earlier than scheduled to assist with this matter, but the total amount did not increase. Councilor Peckham expressed concern regarding this miscommunication and inquired as to whether this would result in layoffs for firefighters who were hired following this tragic fire. Ms. Arpke stated that the overall cost of overtime would be significantly decreased by hiring more full-time firefighters, and that the total compensation costs for these new employees would be maintained by existing funding sources. Ms. Arpke also clarified that one source for this transfer, the Veterans Services, Expenses account, was not going to reduce any budgetary availability for the Veterans Services Office and that this funding was unused capital that would have been transferred to Free Cash at the end of the fiscal year. Councilor Peckham and Ms. Arpke discussed the need to balance retirements within the Fire Department with the benefit costs of newly hired employees.

Councilor Peckham asked if the Mayor had contacted the Governor regarding the stagnant total for state funding to assist the firefighters. Ms. O'Neil-Souza explained that the Governor's office never stated that it would be providing a larger amount of funding than in previous years, and that this miscommunication was solely based on inaccurate news reports. Councilor Peckham and Ms. Arpke discussed the accelerated state funding and grant allocations that were utilized by the Fire Department, and Ms. Arpke stated that the City had received roughly \$803,000 for the Fire Department, as well as \$803,000 for the Fall River Police Department. The Director of Financial Services clarified that both funding allocations were expended prior to the end of January 2026.

Councilor Cadime and Ms. Arpke discussed the proposed Revolving Funds authorization order for Fiscal Year 2027. Councilor Cadime requested clarification as to why some funds listed within the City Code were not included in this proposed order, such as Trolley operations, Handicapped transportation services, Vehicle trade-in facilities, Solid waste recovery, and Street light repairs. The Director of Financial Services explained that some of these accounts may no longer be active, but that she will check if any remaining balances exist in these accounts. Ms. Arpke also stated that some of these funds may be associated with active revolving funds, and the name may not match, such as the Trolley operations fund, which may be related to the Library revolving fund.

Ms. Arpke provided specific estimated balances for all revolving funds included on the proposed Revolving Funds authorization order as follows: Fire Department, Hazardous Material Recovery, \$131,000; Community Services, Cleaning and Securing Buildings, \$105,000; Community Services, Demolition, \$1,631,000; Community Maintenance, Home Composting, \$7,000; Police Department, Moorings Maintenance, \$4,100; Police Department, Police Cruiser, \$547,000; School Department, Summer Tuition, \$245,000; School Department, Athletic Events, \$48,000; School Department, Music Revolving, \$20,500; School Department, School Building Use and School Department, School Store (combined), \$686,000; School Department, Daycare Services, \$213,000; Career Vocational Technical Education (CVTE) Revolving Fund, Durfee High School, \$303,000; and Library, Library Programs, \$1,900. Ms. Arpke also confirmed that the balances for the School Department revolving funds had been verified by the School Department's financial team.

Councilor Canuel and Ms. Arpke discussed the process of determining whether a revolving fund may have an increased expenditure limit. Ms. Arpke stated that, if the revenue continues to grow for that account, the limit can be adjusted to remain consistent with the anticipated income.

On a motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:55 p.m., with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)



Clerk of Committees

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: July 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Cliff A. Ponte, presiding;
Councilors Shawn E. Cadime, Joseph D. Camara, Michael G. Canuel,
Michelle M. Dionne, Christopher M. Peckham, Sr., Linda M. Pereira
and Andrew J. Raposo

ABSENT: Councilor Paul B. Hart

IN ATTENDANCE: Ann O'Neil-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff
Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services

President Ponte called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted to lift item 1 from the table, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

PRIORITY MATTERS

1. Mayor and order appropriating \$1,400,000 from FY25 Surplus Revenue to Fire, Salaries
On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was voted 8 yeas that the order be granted leave to withdraw, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

2. Mayor and request for confirmation of the following reappointments to the Historical Commission:

a. Joyce Rodrigues

On a motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to confirm the reappointment, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

b. Maria Connie Soule

On a motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted to confirm the reappointment, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

3. Mayor and the following appropriation orders:

a. Original July Continuing Appropriation Budget for FY 2027

Councilors Cadime and Camara clarified that this appropriation order was drafted incorrectly and that the corrected version is listed on the agenda under item 3b. Councilor Camara stated that this order would be rejected due to the typographical and numerical errors present in the document.

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to reject the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Vice President Dionne and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to vote on the appropriation order by section, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to reject A1 through A10, Mayor, Salaries; Mayor, Expenses; City Council, Salaries; City Council, Expenses; City Clerk, Salaries; City Clerk, Expenses; Elections, Salaries; Elections, Expenses; Veterans' Benefits, Salaries; and Veterans' Benefits, Expenses, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to reject B1 through B3, Administrative Services, Salaries; Administrative Services, Expenses; Judgements and Claims, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to reject C1 and C2, Financial Services, Salaries; Financial Services, Expenses, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to reject D1 through D3, Facilities, Salaries; Facilities, Expenses; and Facilities, Capital, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to reject E1 through E3, Community Maintenance, Salaries; Community Maintenance, Expenses; and Community Maintenance, Capital, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to reject F1 through F3, Community Services, Salaries; Community Services, Expenses; and Community Services, Transfers, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to reject G2, School Transportation, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to reject H1 through H8, Police, Salaries; Police, Expenses; Police, Capital; Harbor Master, Salaries; Harbor Master, Expenses; Fire & Emergency Services, Salaries; Fire & Emergency Services, Expenses; and Fire & Emergency Services, Capital, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted to reject I1 through I4, Debt – Service; Insurance; Pension Contributions; Reserve Fund, respectively, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to reject the following funding sources: \$150,000 from Surplus Revenue (Free Cash); \$128,952.96 from the EMS Rate Revenues for Insurance; \$192,247.95 from the EMS Rate Revenues for Pension; \$105,415 from the EMS Rate Revenues for Other Indirect; \$51,569.92 from the Water Rate Revenues for Insurance; \$99,661 from the Water Rate Revenues for Pension; \$67,786.50 from the Water Rate Revenues for Other Indirect; \$12,884.58 from the Sewer Rate Revenues for Insurance; \$24,385.33 from the Sewer Rate Revenues for Pension; and \$41,730.08 from the Sewer Rate Revenues for Other Indirect, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to reduce the appropriation order total to \$0, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adopt the appropriation order, as amended, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

b. Revised July Continuing Appropriation Budget for FY 2027

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted 4 yeas, 4 nays, that the appropriation order be adopted, with Councilors Camara, Canuel, Pereira and Raposo voting in the affirmative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting, and the motion failed to carry.

On a further motion made by Vice President Dionne and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to waive the rules to allow Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services, to answer questions, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Ms. Arpke provided a brief overview of the error within the original appropriation order, as it had included a line item within the Revenue Sources section for \$150,000 from Free Cash. Ms. Arpke explained that a different area of the budget was adjusted to balance out this area and that the appropriation total remained the same. The Director of Financial Services also clarified that the Administration is working to finalize the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City Council, the Mayor and Corporation Counsel, consolidate the financial totals for the School Transportation costs and obtain additional information regarding the retirement pension totals prior to submitting a newly proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budget and that she anticipates the item to be submitted by the end of July. Councilor Cadime and Ms. Arpke discussed the delayed submission of a new budget. Ms. Arpke explained that she has not yet been able to schedule a meeting with the new Chief Financial Officer within the Fall River School Department and emphasized that there is no timeline for the MOA for the City Council's outside legal counsel funds.

Councilor Cadime expressed concern that the School Department was able to provide information regarding the School Transportation costs and stated that there were no appropriations included in the monthly appropriation for line items G1 or G3, School Appropriation; Education Assessments, respectively. Ms. Arpke stated that she was advised that the actions taken during the Special Meeting of the City Council on June 3, 2026, had resulted in approved budgets for those line items. Councilor Cadime stated that the appropriation order presented to the City Council on June 3, 2026, was never adopted and expressed concern regarding the legal interpretation of the motions made during that meeting. Councilor Cadime reiterated that the School Department is currently operating without a monthly budgetary appropriation and that this order should be rejected until this section is corrected.

Vice President Dionne stated that the budget presented on June 3, 2026, was never adopted and that this matter was discussed at a recent City Council meeting, when all line items were reduced to zero. The City Clerk confirmed that the appropriation order was never adopted by the City Council during the June 3, 2026, meeting, and that at all following meetings, the appropriation orders were adopted, as amended, after being reduced to \$0.

Councilor Camara requested clarification as to who provided this legal opinion. Ms. Arpke stated that the Law Department had provided legal interpretation regarding lines G1 and G3 of the appropriation order. Vice President Dionne and Councilor Cadime emphasized that these line items were approved to show support for the School Department during the June 3, 2026, Special Meeting of the City Council, but that the order to authorize the budget was not adopted. Councilor Peckham stated that he had inquired about this matter and never received a response from the Director of Financial Services, only from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. A discussion was held between Councilor Canuel and Ms. Arpke regarding the consequences of the City Council rejecting the monthly appropriation order for July. Ms. Arpke emphasized that, if this order was rejected, she would work to immediately resubmit a new, corrected appropriation order.

Councilor Cadime expressed frustration regarding the lack of urgency to submit a new Fiscal Year 2027 budget to the City Council. Councilor Pereira explained that Ms. Arpke is still waiting for information from outside sources regarding various matters. Councilors Cadime and Peckham expressed concern regarding hiring of a new Chief Financial Officer of the Fall River Public Schools and their inability to meet with the City's Director of Financial Services, causing a larger gap in communication between the School Department and the Administration. President Ponte stated that he had spoken with the Mayor recently with the intent to schedule a budgetary meeting.

President Ponte asked Ms. Arpke about the Mayor's vote and opinion on the proposed budget submitted by the School Committee in relation to School Transportation costs. The Director of Financial Services emphasized that she cannot comment on the Mayor's opinions on the matter, and that she creates the budget based on his official requests. Councilor Peckham expressed frustration regarding this matter and stated that the Mayor's financial decision is overriding the School Committee's vote regarding the budget for School Transportation costs.

Councilor Pereira asked if the Director of Financial Services could discuss the School Department's financial matters with another employee on the financial team instead of the Chief Financial Officer. Ms. Arpke explained that she has requested additional information regarding how the previous Chief Financial Officer had calculated the School Transportation costs, and the staff has stated that there is no specific formula that can be identified without consulting the former employee. Councilor Pereira suggested that the Director of Financial Services call the former Superintendent for more information. President Ponte requested that the Administration reach out to him to schedule a formal meeting regarding this matter.

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted 4 yeas, 4 nays, that the appropriation order be rejected, with President Ponte, Vice President Dionne and Councilors Cadime and Peckham voting in the affirmative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting, and the motion failed to carry.

Councilor Cadime emphasized that, with the submitted appropriation order, the School Department does not have adequate funding allocated and that this order must be rejected so it may be corrected. Councilor Canuel expressed concern that, if the monthly appropriation order was rejected, that there would be no budget at all for the City and that Government Center, the School Department and all other offices and facilities would need to shut down. Ms. Arpke stated that she would resubmit a new order immediately to replace this one, if it is rejected by the City Council. Councilor Canuel asked the City Clerk what would happen if a new order was not submitted in a timely manner. The City Clerk stated that she could not provide a definitive answer as to what steps would need to be taken if a new monthly appropriation order was not submitted immediately.

On a further motion made by Councilor Camara and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted 7 yeas, 1 nay, to reconsider the previous motion, with Councilor Canuel voting in the negative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted 6 yeas, 2 nays, that the appropriation order be rejected, with Councilors Camara and Canuel voting in the negative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted to reject A1 through A10, Mayor, Salaries; Mayor, Expenses; City Council, Salaries; City Council, Expenses; City Clerk, Salaries; City Clerk, Expenses; Elections, Salaries; Elections, Expenses; Veterans' Benefits, Salaries; and Veterans' Benefits, Expenses, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Councilor Peckham stated that the City Council should send a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue regarding the challenges the legislative body has faced in relation to this matter. Councilor Camara requested clarification regarding the reason for the proposed letter. Councilor Peckham explained that the original monthly appropriation order included the Free Cash funding source incorrectly and that the resubmitted monthly appropriation order had no School Department funding listed. Councilor Peckham stated that this letter would clarify the reasoning behind the City Council's action to reject the monthly appropriation order.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by President Ponte, it was voted 4 yeas, 3 nays to send a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue regarding the City Council's concerns in relation to hardships within the various proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budgets as well as the submitted monthly appropriation orders, with President Ponte, Vice President Dionne, Councilor Cadime and Councilor Peckham voting in the affirmative, Councilor Raposo voting present and Councilor Hart absent and not voting, and the motion failed to carry.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted to reject B1 through B3, Administrative Services, Salaries; Administrative Services, Expenses; Judgements and Claims, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and Councilor Peckham, it was voted to reject C1 and C2, Financial Services, Salaries; Financial Services, Expenses, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted to reject D1 through D3, Facilities, Salaries; Facilities, Expenses; and Facilities, Capital, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted to reject E1 through E3, Community Maintenance, Salaries; Community Maintenance, Expenses; and Community Maintenance, Capital, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted to reject F1 through F3, Community Services, Salaries; Community Services, Expenses; and Community Services, Transfers, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted to reject G2, School Transportation, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted to reject H1 through H8, Police, Salaries; Police, Expenses; Police, Capital; Harbor Master, Salaries; Harbor Master, Expenses; Fire & Emergency Services, Salaries; Fire & Emergency Services, Expenses; and Fire & Emergency Services, Capital, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted to reject I1 through I4, Debt – Service; Insurance; Pension Contributions; Reserve Fund, respectively, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted to reject the following funding sources: \$128,952.96 from the EMS Rate Revenues for Insurance; \$192,247.95 from the EMS Rate Revenues for Pension; \$105,415 from the EMS Rate Revenues for Other Indirect; \$51,569.92 from the Water Rate Revenues for Insurance; \$99,661 from the Water Rate Revenues for Pension; \$67,786.50 from the Water Rate Revenues for Other Indirect; \$12,884.58 from the Sewer Rate Revenues for Insurance; \$24,385.33 from the Sewer Rate Revenues for Pension; and \$41,730.08 from the Sewer Rate Revenues for Other Indirect, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was voted to reduce the appropriation order total to \$0, with Councilors Camara and Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was voted 6 yeas, 2 nays, to adopt the appropriation order, as amended, with Councilors Camara and Canuel voting in the negative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

4. Mayor and the following orders:

- a. Acceptance of M.G.L. Ch. 44, §53F¾ for a PEG Access and Cable Related Special Revenue Fund

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

- b. Appropriation of the following funds to and from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, totaling \$586,600:

- \$330,000 for FREDTV, Operating Salaries & Expenses
- \$106,600 for FREDTV, Capital
- \$150,000 for FRCMedia, Operating Salaries & Expenses

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to table the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

5. Mayor and order establishing spending limits of Revolving Funds for Fiscal Year 2027

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

6. Mayor and order appropriating \$331,636.27 from the Opioid Stabilization Fund to the Opioid Settlement Revolving Fund

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

7. Mayor and loan order of \$6,883,400 for the repairs, renovation, and maintenance of the Third Street Parking Garage

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to waive the rules to allow Ann O'Neil-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff, to answer questions.

Councilor Cadime and Ms. O'Neil-Souza discussed the ongoing work being done in the Third Street Parking Garage. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that the City had access to other sources of funding that totaled about \$700,000 to begin the project prior to the loan order being adopted. Councilor Cadime stated that if the loan order was not adopted by the City Council the project would have to be suspended. Councilor Cadime emphasized that he supports this project, but that proper protocols must be followed in relation to waiting for legislative approval to fund large renovations.

Councilor Pereira stated that she had expressed a similar concern with the Mayor's office, as employees have been reassigned to parking locations throughout the City due to the project, prior to the approval of necessary funds. Councilor Pereira also expressed concern that no information regarding the sale of the Pearl Street Parking Garage has been shared with the City Council. Councilor Peckham asked if the City had submitted a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the sale of the Pearl Street Parking Garage. Ms. O'Neil-Souza confirmed that the RFP had been posted by the Administration.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted that the loan order be authorized to be published and referred to the Committee on Finance, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS

8. Letter from City Council President re: Renovations in the City Council Chamber lobby and stairs taking place between July 15, 2026 and August 10, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

9. Traffic Commission recommending amendments to the traffic ordinances
On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the recommendations be referred to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

ORDINANCES

Second Reading and Enrollment:

10. Proposed Ordinance – Amending §62-2(C), Solid waste – Collection and disposal, generally

A motion was made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo to pass the proposed ordinance through second reading and enrollment.

Councilor Canuel suggested that the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation discuss this matter further, as exemptions for various five- and six-unit properties should be considered.

On a motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted 5 yeas, 3 nays, to refer the proposed ordinance to the Committee on Ordinances and Legislation, with President Ponte, Vice President Dionne and Councilor Cadime voting in the negative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

11. Proposed Ordinance – Amending §50-301, Salary schedule for executive officers, department heads, and non-union personnel

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, with Councilor Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, with Councilor Canuel opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

12. Proposed Ordinance – Amending §50-303, Salary schedule for political appointments and boards/committees

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

Second Reading and Enrollment, as amended:

13. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
 Parking prohibited during certain hours
- Hyacinth Street, East, 763 feet north
 Monday through Friday, 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
 from September 1st to June 30th
 - Hyacinth Street, West, 763 feet north
 Monday through Friday, 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
 from September 1st to June 30th
 - Locust Street, North, 658 feet east
 Monday through Friday, 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
 from September 1st to June 30th
 - Locust Street, South, 658 feet east
 Monday through Friday, 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
 from September 1st to June 30th

On a motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, as amended, with Councilor Raposo opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, as amended, with Councilor Raposo opposed and Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

14. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
 Fifteen-minute parking
- South Main Street, East, 76 feet north of Slade Street
 Monday through Saturday, 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.
 Sunday, 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, as amended, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, as amended, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

15. Proposed Ordinance – Traffic, Miscellaneous
 Handicapped parking removals
- Albion Street, West, 30 feet south of Downing Street
 - Bowen Street, West, 160 feet south of Charles Street
 - Brow Street, North, 143 feet east of Fifth Street
 - Center Street, North, 147 feet west of South Main Street
 - Kellogg Street, West, 392 feet north of Hamlet Street
 - Lewis Street, East, 30 feet north of Slade Street
 - Merchant Street, North, 27 feet west of Eighteenth Street
 - Montgomery Street, South, 111 feet east of Robeson Street
 - North Main Street, West, 20 feet south of Weaver Street
 - North Main Street, West, 144 feet north of Marier Street
 - N. Underwood Street, West, 206 feet north of Weetamoe Street
 - Oxford Street, West, 143 feet south of Warren Street
 - Quequechan Street, West, 255 feet south of County Street

- South Main Street, West, 283 feet south of Woodman Street
- Walnut Street, North, 127 feet west of Linden Street

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, as amended, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, as amended, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

16. Proposed Ordinance – Salary amendments for the Director of Health and Human Services

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Camara, it was voted 4 yeas, 4 nays, that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, as amended, with Councilors Camara, Canuel, Pereira and Raposo voting in the affirmative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting, and the motion failed to carry.

RESOLUTIONS

17. Committee on Ordinances and Legislation convene to draft a proposed ordinance to define the City Council's authority to vote to approve or reject any contract renewal granted to a department head whose expiring contract was executed for a term of less than three years

Councilor Pereira stated that there has been an ongoing issue with one- and two-year contracts being utilized to circumvent necessary City Council confirmation of department heads. Councilor Pereira clarified that reconfirmation should be necessary for employees who are issued one- or two-year contracts to ensure that the work and performance provided by the individual is adequate to extend their employment. Councilor Pereira also explained that, once a department head signs a three-year contract, the reconfirmation process should no longer be necessary. On a motion made by Vice President Dionne and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

18. Committee on Ordinances and Legislation convene to discuss the creation of an ad-hoc School Transportation Committee

Councilor Raposo explained that the creation of an ad-hoc School Transportation Committee would be beneficial to the City Council, School Committee and Administration as it would ensure cooperation during budgetary deliberations related to transportation costs. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

19. Committee on Public Safety convene to address long standing flooding issues at Stafford Plaza, Pleasant Street and Quarry Street

Councilor Peckham stated that the flooding in the Stafford Square neighborhood has been an ongoing issue that has been addressed in numerous Committees in the past, such as the Committee on Public Works and Transportation. Councilor Camara agreed but stated that this has been a challenge for decades and that the cost of completely renovating the stormwater drainage system in this area would be incredibly costly for the City. On a motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

20. City Council urges the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the members of the Fall River Legislative Delegation to work collaboratively to restore the funding levels originally requested to support the development of a sensory-friendly autism playground, Veteran's Kitchen and Fall River's Council on Aging

A motion was made by Vice President Dionne and seconded by Councilor Canuel to adopt the resolution.

Councilor Canuel explained that the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts had already adopted the state's Fiscal Year 2027 budget. Councilor Canuel requested that the resolution be amended to include a paragraph addressing the Administration's input regarding how the City of Fall River may be able to provide the \$50,000 funding for the playground without assistance from the state and that this resolution also be sent to the Committee on Finance for further discussion, and that the City Council send a letter to the Mayor regarding this matter.

On a motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was voted 8 yeas to amend the resolution by inserting the following after the last paragraph: "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council requests that the Administration review the City's inactive Parks capital projects to determine whether \$50,000 is available to support Mae's Playground, and that this matter be referred to the Committee on Finance for discussion and recommendation," and to send the Administration a letter regarding this matter, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Councilor Cadime agreed that the City should be contributing to the development of a new sensory-friendly autism playground, as well as assisting the needs of the Fall River Council on Aging, and stated that debt service costs would be minimal for these projects. Councilor Pereira provided insight regarding various forms of revenue and funding for the Veterans' Services office and agreed that the City should be contributing capital toward these projects, such as the Veterans Kitchen project, but emphasized that the Parks Division is very limited in funding to maintain existing parks. Councilor Canuel stated that the estimated total to build the new park would be roughly \$700,000 and that the sponsor is in the process of raising \$1,000,000.

On a further motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, as amended, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

21. Committee on Public Safety convene to discuss the potential installation and maintenance of AEDs within all City-owned parks

Councilor Raposo commended a former resolution that was submitted by Councilor Cadime in 2025 regarding the installation of AEDs in City-owned parks. Councilor Raposo also stated that he has been discussing this initiative with the Director of Parks. Councilor Cadime stated that many resolutions have been directed to the Administration with no response. Councilor Cadime requested that the City Clerk provide a list of all resolutions that have been sent to the Administration over the past three years.

Councilor Camara asked if this emergency equipment would always be available, or just during special events and tournaments as many people are not properly trained to use the device. Councilor Raposo stated that all active sports leagues should have access to the AED equipment. Councilor Raposo also explained that 911 is called immediately upon the opening of the machine, there are clear instructions spoken aloud by the equipment and that the AED will not produce a shock unless an abnormal cardiac rhythm is identified. Councilor Peckham stated that the Committee on Public Safety will discuss this matter further to determine the necessary logistics to ensure safety of all in the parks.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to adopt the resolution, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to take items 22 through 26 together, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Councilor Peckham exited the Chamber at 9:27 p.m.

CITATIONS

- 22. Jacob P. Gagnon - Achieving the rank of Eagle Scout on February 15, 2026
 - 23. William C. Gagnon - Achieving the rank of Eagle Scout on February 15, 2026
 - 24. Jeffrey Sarnecky - Outstanding support for veterans in need
 - 25. Lt. Mason Evangelista - Providing off duty aid to a pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle on April 3, 2026
 - 26. Michael Kelley - Retirement from the Sheriff's Department after over 31 years of service
- On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the citations be accepted and placed on file, with Councilors Hart and Peckham absent and not voting.*

A further motion was made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Vice President Dionne, to take items 27 through 30 together. Vice President Dionne requested that item 27 be voted upon first, as the property owner had performed the curb removal without properly submitting the application for approval.

ORDERS - HEARINGS

Curb Removals

- 27. Timothy R. Long, 1343 Newhall Street - Removal of 9 feet, 1 inch, of curbing for an opening total of 24 feet, 1 inch, at 677 Meridian Street

On a motion made by Vice President Dionne and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was voted 7 years to refer the order to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation, with Councilors Hart and Peckham absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to take items 28 through 30 together, with Councilors Hart and Peckham absent and not voting.

Councilor Peckham returned to the Chamber at 9:30 p.m.

- 28. Glenn J. Hathaway, 46 Bowen Street - Removal of 16 feet of curbing for an opening total of 41 feet, 11 inches, at 46 Bowen Street
- 29. Joshua Rodrigues, 840 Rodman Street - Removal of 7 feet of curbing for an opening total of 23 feet at 840 Rodman Street

Second Hand Article Store

- 30. Connor Vendituoli d/b/a Decked Out Trading Cards LLC, 1054 Wilson Road, Fall River, MA, 02720, for permission to operate and maintain a second hand article store located at 1665 South Main Street (trading cards to be sold).

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted to adopt items 28 through 30, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

ORDERS – MISCELLANEOUS

31. Warrant – State Primary Election – September 1, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

32. Auto Repair Shop License Renewals

Fouad Rechmani d/b/a JC Gas, LLC, 537 Bedford Street

Brandon Rocha d/b/a Shea's Automotive Center, 400 Stafford Road

Manuel Ferreira d/b/a J & S Auto Sales & Repair, Inc., 178 Aberdeen Street

David Saber d/b/a Eleventh Street Assoc., Inc., 50 Sixth Street

Tanios Barbour d/b/a Barbour Auto Sales Trust, 673 Bedford Street

On a motion made by Councilor Canuel and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

33. Claims

On a motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to refer the claims to Corporation Counsel, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was unanimously voted to take items 34 through 36 together, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

34. Drainlayer License

Bond Civil and Utility Construction, Inc.

35. Application for a License to Conduct One-Day Bingo – The Kiwanis Club of Fall River Foundation, Inc., September 19, 2026, at 486 Bedford Street

36. Application for a License to Conduct One-Day Bingo – PVT Joseph Francis VFW Post 486 Inc., October 5, 2026, at 486 Bedford Street

On a motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted to approve the drainlayer application and the bingo applications, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

37. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes – May 21, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted that the minutes be accepted and placed on file, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Peckham, it was unanimously voted to take items 38 through 41 together, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Councilor Pereira exited the Chamber at 9:33 p.m.

City Council Minutes

- 38. Public Hearings – June 23, 2026
- 39. Committee on Finance – June 23, 2026
- 40. Regular Meeting of the City Council – June 23, 2026
- 41. Special Meeting of the City Council – June 30, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Peckham and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes, with Councilors Hart and Pereira absent and not voting.

BULLETINS – NEWSLETTERS – NOTICES – None

ITEMS FILED AFTER THE AGENDA DEADLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: JULY 14, 2026

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was voted 7 yeas to adopt an emergency preamble for item 7a, with Councilors Hart and Pereira absent and not voting.

Councilor Pereira returned to the Chamber at 9:35 p.m.

PRIORITY MATTERS

- 7a. Mayor and appropriations totaling \$1,400,000 from the following accounts:

- Veterans, Expenses (\$500,000)
- Financial Services, Expenses (\$115,000)
- Facilities, Expenses (\$145,000)
- Community Maintenance, Expenses (\$225,000)
- Fire, Expenses (\$150,000)
- Reserve for Employee Benefits (\$65,000)
- Debt Service (\$200,000)

to:

- Fire, Salaries (\$1,400,000)

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

COMMUNICATIONS – INVITATIONS – PETITIONS

- 41a. Voter petition to amend the Zoning Map for the Brayton-Warren Corridor district
Vice President Dionne stated that she would not support this Zoning Map petition, as an entire neighborhood should not be re-zoned to provide ease of construction on one individual's property.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was voted 4 yeas, 4 nays, to refer the petition to the Planning Board, with Councilors Cadime, Camara, Canuel and Raposo voting in the affirmative and Councilor Hart absent and not voting and the motion failed to carry.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee on Public Works and Transportation recommending:

Adopt, as amended:

- 9a. Order – Curb Removal, Jessica Ortega Urgiles, 53 Adams Street, Newark, NJ,
 .07105 – Addition of 12 feet of curbing and removal of 18 feet of curbing for a total opening
 of 18 feet at 34-36 California Street

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was unanimously voted to adopt the order, as amended, with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

Approved, July 17, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

A recess was held from 9:37 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. for the signing of ordinances and the signing of the election warrant.

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:45 p.m., with Councilor Hart absent and not voting.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:
Agenda packet (attached)

A true copy Attest:

Onêa da Silva Paulino Leite

City Clerk



City of Fall River Massachusetts
Office of the City Clerk

INÊS DA SILVA PAULINO LEITE
CITY CLERK

CHELSEA PACHECO
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

July 22, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor
City of Fall River
One Government Center
Fall River, MA 02722

Dear Mayor Coogan,

At a Regular Meeting of the City Council held on July 14, 2026, it was unanimously voted to adopt, as amended, the enclosed resolution relative to earmarked funding for the City of Fall River that was reduced within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

One of the projects listed within this budget was for Mae's Playground with a requested funding total of \$100,000. As you know, this is planned to be a sensory-friendly autism playground, and the funding request was reduced to \$10,000. Currently the City has inactive Parks capital projects, and this funding could potentially be used for this project. The City Council respectfully requests that the Administration review these inactive accounts to determine whether \$50,000 is available to support Mae's Playground.

This matter was also referred to the City Council Committee on Finance for the Committee's consideration.

Sincerely,

Inês da Silva Paulino Leite
City Clerk

Enc.

CC: Ann O'Neill-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff
Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services
Ian Schachne, City Treasurer/Collector
Christopher Murphy, City Auditor
Al Oliveira, Director of City Operations
Darren Medeiros, Director of Parks

/lv

City of Fall River, In City Council

(Councilor Michael G. Canuel)

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River is home to organizations and initiatives that provide vital services to residents, including children with disabilities, our nation's veterans, and senior citizens, and

WHEREAS, State Representative Alan Silvia requested a \$100,000 legislative earmark to support the development of a sensory-friendly autism playground in Fall River, a project that would provide an inclusive recreational space for children with autism spectrum disorder and other sensory needs, and

WHEREAS, Representative Silvia also requested a \$50,000 legislative earmark to support the Veteran's Kitchen, a local organization that provides hot meals and other assistance to veterans in our community, and

WHEREAS, Representative Silvia also requested a \$25,000 legislative earmark to support Fall River's Council on Aging, which provides support and community engagement for those in their later years of life, and

WHEREAS, all requests were reduced to \$10,000 during the Massachusetts House of Representatives budget process, significantly limiting the resources available to advance these important community initiatives, and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes investments that improve the lives of children with disabilities, honor and support our veterans, and strengthen local senior citizen communities deserve meaningful consideration and equitable support from the Commonwealth, and

WHEREAS, these projects represent important investments in the well-being of Fall River residents and merit the support of the entire Fall River Legislative Delegation, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council respectfully urges the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the members of the Fall River Legislative Delegation to work collaboratively to restore the funding levels originally requested for these three important Fall River community projects, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council reaffirms its strong support for the creation of a sensory-friendly autism playground in Fall River and for the continued work of the Veteran's Kitchen in serving those who have served our nation, and our local senior citizen community, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor of Massachusetts, the Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the Fall River Legislative Delegation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council requests that the Administration review the City's Inactive Parks capital projects to determine whether \$50,000 is available to support Mae's Playground, and that this matter be referred to the Committee on Finance for discussion and recommendation.

In City Council, July 14, 2026
Adopted, as amended.

A true copy. Attest:

Chris da Silva Paulino Leite
City Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING: July 28, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.
City Council Hearing Room, One Government Center

PRESENT: President Cliff A. Ponte, presiding;
Councilors Shawn E. Cadime, Joseph D. Camara, Michael G. Canuel,
Michelle M. Dionne, Paul B. Hart, Christopher M. Peckham, Sr.,
Linda M. Pereira and Andrew J. Raposo

ABSENT: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Ann O'Neil-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff
Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services
Dr. Kathleen Smith, Superintendent, Fall River Public Schools
Elizabeth Legault, Deputy Superintendent, Fall River Public Schools
Aldo Petronio, Chief Financial Officer, Fall River Public Schools
Kenneth C. Pacheco, Chief Operating Officer, Fall River Public Schools

President Ponte called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag and announced that the meeting may be recorded with audio or video and transmitted through any medium.

1. Citizen Input Time

Collin Dias, 560 Ray Street – Budget

Vice President Dionne and Mr. Dias held a brief discussion regarding how the funding for the School Transportation line item within the budget is under the jurisdiction of the City Council. Vice President Dionne emphasized that the City Councilors are not required to agree with every line item within the budget, but that their vote is based on the appropriation order in its entirety. Mr. Dias stated that the Mayor had bullied the School Administration with regard to the School Transportation line item. Councilor Pereira expressed concern regarding Mr. Dias' statements, and said that these remarks should not be made without documented evidence. Councilor Camara agreed and asked Mr. Dias if he had any evidence available regarding the bullying between the Administration and the School Department and Mr. Dias stated that he did not want to disclose the names of those who had informed him of this matter.

PRIORITY MATTERS

2. Mayor and order with Memorandum of Agreement between Mayor Paul E.

*Coogan and the City of Fall River City Council regarding outside legal counsel
Vice President Dionne stated that there was a collaborated effort between the City Council and the Administration to compromise on this proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and emphasized the need for a full Council vote to determine if this matter is amenable to all parties.*

Councilor Cadime agreed and stated that Vice President Dionne worked to schedule numerous meetings between the Administration, the City Councilors and the Law Department to discuss this MOA. Councilor Cadime also commended Corporation Counsel for participating in these discussions and helping to determine how this plan could benefit the City Council for future legal inquiries. Councilor Cadime said that he will work to strike-out the current ordinance in the City code related to outside legal counsel for the City Council, as the MOA will now serve as the protocol for this matter.

Councilor Camara asked if the existing ordinance and the MOA could both exist. Councilor Cadime stated that with the current MOA, the ordinance should be removed from the City code, but that future City Councilors will always have the power to change the protocol in the future. Councilor Cadime also emphasized that there were concerns regarding the legality of the ordinance.

On a motion made by Councilor Pereira and seconded by Councilor Raposo, it was voted 8 yeas, 1 nay, to adopt the order, with Councilor Peckham voting in the negative.

Approved, July 29, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

3. Mayor and third revised Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Municipal Budget General Fund Appropriation Order

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to waive the rules to allow members of the Administration and the School Department to answer questions.

Councilor Pereira stated that the budget for the School Transportation costs was voted upon by the School Committee to total roughly \$17,000,000, but that the Administration presented the City Council with a total of approximately \$16,100,000 from the General Fund, in addition to other sources of funding, and acknowledged that there are many variables regarding how many school buses the City would need for Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) due to redistricting and changing bus routes. Councilor Pereira also explained that she worked with the Treasurer/Collector to obtain data regarding the City's earned interest from the previous year, from various sources including the investment of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and recommended that the Administration consider using that interest accumulation to assist with School Transportation funding.

Dr. Kathleen Smith, Superintendent, Fall River Public Schools, provided information regarding the process of the School Transportation budget being determined by the School Committee, including the cost of redistricting buses and students, and the variable of cost savings with this new transportation program. Superintendent Smith stated that she had spoken with President Ponte regarding her desire to work together with the City Council and the School Committee to collaboratively plan for these transportation costs. Superintendent Smith also expressed concern regarding the proposed total within the FY27 budget, as it is short of the voted upon \$17,000,000, by a total of \$450,000, and emphasized that the grand total of students and buses for this upcoming school year cannot yet be finalized as registration is ongoing.

Councilor Pereira stated that, at a recent Committee on Ordinances and Legislation meeting, there was a discussion regarding the creation of an ad-hoc School Transportation Committee to help with future collaboration regarding this matter. Councilor Pereira asked if the Administration would be able to provide additional funding to the School Department for transportation costs if needed in the future.

Emily Arpke, Director of Financial Services, stated that there are other funding sources that the City could utilize in the future if additional capital is necessary to help with School Transportation costs. Councilor Pereira stated that, if this funding is currently available, it should be allocated to this line item within the budget to ensure that the School Department has adequate funding for this portion of their budget. Councilor Pereira and Ms. Arpke discussed various portions of the City's budget that would need to be reduced to balance out the potential increase in funding within the School Transportation account. Superintendent Smith explained that the School Department would not have final data totals for student enrollment until October or November, which will be crucial in determining the overall anticipated costs of school buses.

President Ponte asked Superintendent Smith for an exact funding total that the School Department felt was necessary to ensure adequate capital for School Transportation, and the Superintendent stated that the total amount voted upon by the School Committee was \$17,000,000.

Councilor Cadime supported Councilor Pereira's initiative to fully fund the School Transportation budget. Councilor Cadime and Ms. Arpke held a detailed discussion regarding various methods that were used to increase this total over the past few budgetary meetings, including reduction of funding for vacant positions. Ms. Arpke also emphasized that the actual total cost for School Transportation cannot be determined until the School Department has collected all data regarding student enrollment. Councilor Cadime and Superintendent Smith discussed the redistricting plan for students that has been implemented and the variables that are now present with the new bus routes and student enrollment totals. Superintendent Smith stated that the School Department will be working with the Chief Financial Officer to determine the best steps going forward to fund this expenditure. Councilor Cadime and Superintendent Smith discussed the need for more collaboration between the School Department and the City Council.

Councilor Raposo and Superintendent Smith discussed student enrollment totals, as well as deadlines for various types of school funds that are based on student populations. Elizabeth Legault, Deputy Superintendent, Fall River Public Schools, provided data regarding student enrollment as of July 27, 2026, and stated that 10,563 students are currently enrolled in the Fall River Public Schools and 604 new students enrolled for this upcoming school year. Deputy Superintendent Legault explained that there were over 11,000 students enrolled during the previous school year.

Councilor Canuel and Ms. Arpke discussed the variables associated with School Transportation costs, including student enrollment and the use of new electric school buses, as well as the consequences of reducing funding in other areas of the budget to allocate the full \$17,000,000 to the School Transportation fund. Ms. Arpke stated that if the City utilized investment revenue to assist with this funding, it would reduce the City's income totals significantly. The Director of Financial Services emphasized that there are only so many accounts that can be reduced without causing significant strain on other departments. Councilor Canuel and Ms. Arpke also discussed the various methods that the City could use to utilize unused funding from previous fiscal years. Ms. Arpke explained that some funding could be reallocated or released prior to November of 2026, but there may also be a delay if the funding is considered surplus revenue and becomes part of the City's Free Cash total. Councilor Canuel stated that the additional \$450,000 needed to balance the School Transportation budget is a very small amount of the overall budgetary total of \$483,583,582, and that the City Council should not reject the entire budget based on this one funding shortage. Councilor Canuel also expressed concern regarding cutting services or employees in different departments to allocate this additional funding.

Vice President Dionne and Ms. Arpke discussed the decreased indirect cost funding that was amended at a previous budgetary meeting and Ms. Arpke stated that those sections of the budget cannot be reduced any further as the Water, Sewer and EMS Enterprise Fund FY27 budgets have all been adopted. Vice President Dionne inquired as to how many vacant employee positions were still being funded and Ms. Arpke explained that she removed funding from positions that were anticipated to remain vacant, such as the Electrician and Plumber positions. The Director of Financial Services clarified that there are some positions that were vacant at the time of the budget being prepared, but that were planned to be filled by department heads. Ms. Arpke emphasized that defunding those positions may have a negative impact on City departments who were planning to hire employees for those roles but confirmed that the reduction in funding for these positions was under the jurisdiction of the City Council. Vice President Dionne and Ms. Arpke also discussed the anticipated savings with the new electric school buses. Ms. Arpke stated that data shows the City would save \$25 per day per bus that is replaced with an electric vehicle. Ms. Arpke also clarified that these totals have not yet been verified as the electric buses were only used for a few days last year. Kenneth C. Pacheco, Chief Operating Officer, Fall River Public Schools, agreed and stated that these new buses were only in service for about 28 days last year. Vice President Dionne and Ms. Arpke discussed how total bus costs were determined for the upcoming school year. Ms. Arpke explained that schools need different amounts of buses or vans, as well as bus monitors, based on student totals. Vice President Dionne expressed concern that some schools may also need more vehicles due to special needs students and stated that she was not comfortable with this line item not being fully funded.

Councilor Camara and Ms. Arpke discussed the total within the McKinney Vento fund and how much of this capital was factored into the FY27 budget. Ms. Arpke stated that the current total is \$779,634.68 and that about \$600,000 of this total was factored into the proposed budget. Ms. Arpke also explained that this total will most likely be the same for the upcoming fiscal year.

Councilor Cadime and Ms. Arpke discussed various funding sources for the School Transportation line item, including the McKinney Vento fund and the Special Education Circuit Breaker Program funds. Councilor Cadime stated that any total less than the planned \$17,000,000, would not be balanced as the School Department cannot reduce transportation services in the future due to lack of adequate funding. Councilor Cadime and Ms. Arpke also discussed other funding sources such as local receipts and the Reserve Fund. Councilor Cadime suggested that, as the Memorandums of Agreement for various collective bargaining units have not yet been finalized, the City could adjust the line item for the Reserve Fund by \$450,000 to assist with balancing the School Transportation line item.

A motion was made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Vice President Dionne to send a letter to the Administration asking them to reduce the Reserve Funds by \$450,000 and use that funding to balance the School Transportation budget.

Councilor Pereira suggested that the matter could be tabled until a new appropriation order was presented with this adjustment. The City Clerk stated that, at the Council's will, a recess could be held, and the Director of Financial Services could produce a new budgetary appropriation order for consideration on behalf of the Mayor.

A recess was held from 6:39 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.

Ms. Arpke presented the City Councilors with a newly revised budgetary appropriation order. Councilor Cadime requested that the Director of Financial Services clarify if this new appropriation order had decreased line-item I4, Reserve Fund, by \$450,000, and increased line-item G2, School Transportation, by \$450,000. Ms. Arpke confirmed that this was the financial adjustment within the newly presented appropriation order and that the additional funding from the McKinney Vento account and the Special Education Circuit Breaker Program account, totaling \$2,000,000, and \$1,800,000, respectively, would cover the additional funding for School Transportation, totaling \$17,000,000.

Councilor Peckham and Ms. Arpke held a discussion regarding the current deadlines for ARPA funded project expenditures. The Director of Financial Services explained that there are various deadlines for Bristol County ARPA funded projects and City ARPA funded projects, and that those deadlines range from September to December of 2026. Ann O'Neil-Souza, Interim City Administrator/Chief of Staff, explained that, as of March 31, 2026, all project numbers had been reconciled and that she will obtain a report from the City Auditor to ensure all funds are being expended in a timely manner. Councilor Peckham asked if there were any concerns about the projects being completed on time. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that all ongoing projects appear to be scheduled appropriately for the use of this funding. Vice President Dionne and Councilor Peckham discussed the overall totals for ARPA funding. Vice President Dionne stated that, prior to the ARPA Directors' departure, a total of \$8,100,000 had been expended with \$8,000,000 in ARPA funding remaining. Ms. O'Neil-Souza stated that she would provide data updates to the Councilors as soon as possible. Councilor Peckham asked that the Director of City Operations call him to discuss the ongoing ARPA-funding projects within City property prior to Thursday, July 30, 2026.

On a motion made by Vice President Dionne and seconded by Councilor Cadime, it was voted 8 yeas, 1 nay, to adopt the revised Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Municipal Budget General Fund appropriation order, with Councilor Peckham voting in the negative.

Approved, July 29, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

4. Mayor and second revised Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Municipal Budget
July Continuing Appropriation Order

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Municipal Budget July continuing appropriation order be granted leave to withdraw.

The City Clerk suggested that, to ensure clarity with the budgetary motions, that the City Councilors instead vote to reject the order.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted to reject the Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Municipal Budget July continuing appropriation order.

5. City Council President and ordinance with policy on the use of outside legal
counsel

President Ponte stated that a policy should be in place regarding the City Council's utilization of outside counsel and asked that the Councilors review the existing policy and submit any feedback to the City Clerk in writing. On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Canuel, it was unanimously voted that the communication be accepted and placed on file.

ORDINANCESSecond Reading and Enrollment, as amended:

6. Proposed Ordinance – Salary amendments for the Director of Health and Human Services (July 14, 2026 failed to carry 4 yeas, 4 nays)

On a motion made by Councilor Cadime and seconded by Vice President Dionne, it was unanimously voted to reconsider the previous motion made during the Regular Meeting of the City Council held on July 14, 2026. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed through second reading and enrollment, as amended. On a further motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Pereira, it was unanimously voted that the proposed ordinance be passed to be ordained, as amended.

Approved, July 29, 2026

Paul E. Coogan, Mayor

A recess was held from 6:59 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the signing of the ordinance.

On a motion made by Councilor Raposo and seconded by Councilor Hart, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:01 p.m.

List of documents and other exhibits used during the meeting:

Agenda packet (attached)

Earned interest report provided by Treasurer/Collector

A true copy. Attest:

Thiêr da Silva Paulino Leite

City Clerk