



Programs & Services Committee Agenda

City of Newton In City Council

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

7:00 PM

The Programs & Services Committee will hold this meeting as a Zoom Meeting on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at 7pm. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82759301247> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the Meeting ID: 827 5930 1247.

Items Scheduled for Discussion:

- #371-22** **Request for salary increase for City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council**
COUNCILORS ALBRIGHT AND LIPOF requesting an increase in the salary of the City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council to \$131,313 effective July 1, 2022 to match the percentage increase included in the FY23 budget for H-grade employees.
- #284-22** **Resolution supporting the AAPI Community**
COUNCILORS LUCAS, DOWNS, GREENBERG, HUMPHREY, KALIS, KRINTZMAN, LAREDO, LIPOF, NORTON, WRIGHT, DANBERG AND BOWMAN on behalf of Newton resident Betty Chan, requesting a resolution supporting the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.
- #370-22** **Discussion on Field Maintenance Plan**
COUNCILORS KRINTZMAN, BOWMAN, KELLEY, LIPOF, KALIS, LAREDO, CROSSLEY, ALBRIGHT, HUMPHREY, LUCAS, MALAKIE, WRIGHT, MARKIEWIZ, NOEL, DOWNS, LEARY, NORTON, OLIVER AND DANBERG requesting a discussion with the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Culture about the maintenance plan for our parks, recreation and culture resources, including recreational fields. This discussion should include an articulation of how additional funds based upon a budget increase and newly collected user group field fees in the upcoming fiscal year will be utilized. Time permitting, the discussion should also include a description of the capital projects on recreational fields that the department intends to complete in the upcoming fiscal year.

The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the City of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

Chair's Note: The Chair intends to ask for vote No Action Necessary on the following 2 (two) items.

#181-22 **Seeking a review and potential amendment to the Tiger Parking Permit Program**
COUNCILORS BOWMAN, ALBRIGHT, DOWNS, NORTON, OLIVER AND DANBERG
seeking a review and potential amendment to the Tiger Parking Permit Program (Sec. TPR-204, Newton North High School Tiger Parking Permit) including review of the number of permits issued, the lottery process for permits and locations included in the Tiger Permit program.

#306-22 **Resolution opposing Ride-Hail Ballot Initiative**
COUNCILORS NORTON, BOWMAN, DOWNS, HUMPHREY, LEARY, AND RYAN
requesting a resolution urging the Massachusetts Legislature to oppose H. 1234 and the proposed 2022 state ballot initiative that would re-classify app-based delivery and ride-hailing drivers as independent contractors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Josh Krintzman, Chair



OCA Asian Pacific American Advocates, New England Chapter
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Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans

April 7, 2022

Dear Councilor Tarik Lucas and members of the Newton City Council:

We, the OCA APAA New England Chapter support the AAPI resolution offered by Tarik Lucas on behalf of Betty Chan and the Asian American and Pacific Islander residents of Newton. During these challenging and uncertain times for the AAPI across the country, we rely on strong support from our community to address pressing issues facing our local residents.

Whether the rise of Anti-Asian hate crimes is due to the Covid-19 pandemic, xenophobia or pure scapegoating, proper response and prevention is crucial. Through education, workshops, conversations and collaborations our New England Chapter is working tirelessly to dispel racist misconceptions that dangerously impact the most vulnerable members of our communities.

As leaders are tasked upon the duty to strongly advocate for our fellow citizens, we strongly believe the resolution should be adopted. Please stand with the members of the AAPI community, community partners and organizations. We respectfully urge you to swiftly pass this meaningful and impactful resolution.

Sincerely,

Denise Chan, President
OCA Asian American Advocates New England

Resolution urging the City of Newton to take action on Anti-Asian hate crimes and invest in multiracial community health and safety

Whereas, 23 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for 7 percent of the population in the United States; including 16.6% of the population of Newton, MA;

Whereas, the percent of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for 20% of the Newton Public School enrollment population;

Whereas, the use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID-19, such as the “Chinese Virus”, “Wuhan Virus”, and “Kung-flu” have perpetuated anti-Asian stigma;

Whereas, the use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted in Asian Americans being harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated for the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, in 2020, there was a 133% increase in reported hate crimes and incidents against those of Asian descent in Boston, and similar increases have been seen across the country;

Whereas, on February 18, 2021, two Asian people were unprovokedly attacked and robbed on the Red Line at the North Quincy MBTA Station, which left one victim hospitalized;

Whereas, on March 16 2021, there were 8 victims of a gun violence attack at two spas near and in Atlanta, GA. 6 of the 8 victims were of Asian descent, and the City of Newton had a vigil on March 21 2021 remembering the lives that were lost in the mass shootings;

Whereas, in the summer of 2021, there were 5 home break-ins in Newton that were targeted against AAPI homeowners and public artwork that was vandalized;

Whereas, in the spring of 2022, the Newton Police Department identified and arrested the alleged individuals responsible for those break-ins;

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, Dr. Robert Redfield, then Director of the CDC, testified that use of the term “Chinese coronavirus” is wrong and inappropriate; and in April 2021, Newton resident and Director of the CDC, Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky, declared racism is a serious public health threat that directly affects the well-being of millions of Americans and, as a result, affects the health of our entire nation;

Whereas, intersectional anti-racism work is not transactional, and allyship with Black people and other BIPOC communities does not divert attention from aiding Asian communities, so BIPOC

must work together towards our collective liberation by dismantling systems that uphold white supremacy;

Whereas, fighting against anti-Asian sentiment encompasses collaboration with Black, Indigenous, Latinex, Pacific Islander, and the LGBTQIA+ communities to find long-term solutions to stop systemic racism, xenophobia, and violence in all our communities; and

Whereas, an Asian community organization, OCA Asian Pacific American Advocates, New England Chapter, joined together with Newton Asian leadership such as Betty Chan, the author of this Anti-Asian Hate Crimes Resolution to urge Newton City Council to take specific actions to prevent, combat and address acts of AAPI hate.

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, That the Newton City Council

- (1) condemns and denounces all forms of anti-Asian sentiment, including those relating to COVID-19;
- (2) recognizes that the health and safety of all persons, no matter their background, must be the utmost priority;
- (3) condemns all manifestations and expressions of racism, xenophobia, discrimination, anti-Asian sentiment, scapegoating, and ethnic or religious intolerance;
- (4) calls for the creation of an Anti-Asian Hate Crime Task Force to work alongside the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) subcommittee of the Newton City Council, the task force would not work under the direction of the Newton Police Department, but would utilize the NPD as a resource, and the task force will include community members who speak Asian languages and are culturally competent to build trust and support while engaging with crime victims;
- (5) recommits the City of Newton to serving as a national leader in building more inclusive, diverse, and tolerant communities—
 - (A) by prioritizing language access and inclusivity in communication practices; and
 - (B) by combating misinformation and discrimination that put Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders at risk.