



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

April 19, 2016

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M. Connolly	Chair	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Vice Chair	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One Alderman	Absent	

Others present: Doug Kress - HHS, Stan Koty - DPW, Charles Sillari - Clerk of Committees

The meeting took place in the Committee Room and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Alderman Connolly and adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Approval of the February 16, 2016 Minutes

RESULT: ACCEPTED

199724: That the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss concerns regarding #198703 and #199522 for public safety at Assembly Row and citywide.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

200140: That the Chief of Police, the Chief Fire Engineer and the Director of Traffic and Parking consider a "Don't Block the Box" program at key intersections that impede the flow of traffic and present a public safety hazard, and report back to this Board in writing within 30 days.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

200587: Ben Asack submitting comments re: establishing a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Mr. Kress stated that he was interested in learning more about this issue. Chairman Connolly discussed FEMA and the importance of reaching out to the community and will defer discussion of this matter until mid May.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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200641: That the Administration consider implementing a Certified Emergency Response Team as outlined by FEMA.

Mr. Kress stated that he was interested in learning more about this issue. Chairman Connolly discussed FEMA and the importance of reaching out to the community and will defer discussion of this matter until mid May.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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200518: That the Mayor or his designee report at this Board's January 14, 2016 meeting on the large number of malfunctioning streetlamps and to update this Board the status of the contractor(s) responsible for their maintenance.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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200878: That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Board in writing on the street lamp contractor's repair of street lamps since the last Public Health and Safety Committee meeting.

Mr. Koty spoke on this item and said that 805 new lights have been installed on Broadway, Medford Street and Highland Avenue as well as on main and cross-town roadways. The DPW is looking into the reasons why 79 of these new lights do not have power and Mr. Koty stated that it may be an Eversource problem. New bulbs have been ordered for the community path.

Outages are reported to Mr. MacEachern. Dark neighborhoods are being dealt with. The work schedule is arranged to coincide with street sweeping and parking restrictions may be imposed to allow for servicing.

The contractor for all lighting in the city, Dagle Electrical, is more expensive than Siemens and Mr. Koty stated that when the conversion is complete, servicing will be performed in-house. Prior to the next committee meeting, Mr. Koty will provide the Clerk of Committees with information on the cost savings to the city from using the new lights.

Alderman Rossetti's motion *that the Commissioner of Public Works provide a status report of the LED conversion project to the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety by the second week of June*, was approved.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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192737: That this Board's Committee on Public Health and Safety arrange for

representatives of Riverside Community Care aka Somerville Mental Health Association, to appear before the Committee to explain where the programs are and how the City can assist them.

RESULT: **KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

198956: That the Administration develop with this Board a strategy to analyze the increasing use of Runway 33L at Logan Airport and document the adverse noise impacts.

Alderman Rossetti spoke about a survey being performed by a student at Harvard University and about a meeting with the mayor and impacted residents.

RESULT: **KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

199100: That this Board supports the efforts of the Logan Community Advisory Committee and requests that the FAA re-examine its Runway 33L policies to reduce noise complaints.

Alderman Rossetti spoke about a survey being performed by a student at Harvard University and about a meeting with the mayor and impacted residents.

RESULT: **KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

199520: That the Administration prioritize a public health initiative to control the opiate abuse epidemic, including nearby health and educational institutions and any other available resources.

Mr. Kress discussed opioid services training and the Stamp Out Stigma campaign and said that people are uncomfortable discussing the impact of opioid issues. Mr. Kress also spoke about the use of Narcan, the role of first responders, 10th grade intervention and about building a network with the Cambridge Health Alliance.

Chairman Connolly's motion *that the Director of Health and Human Services brief the School Committee on opioid outreach efforts in the city's schools and on ESPERT*, was approved.

RESULT: **KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

200074: That the Administration update the Committee on Public Health and Safety monthly on data for Logan Airport Runway 33L, and that the City engage Wig Zamore and communicate with officials from Cambridge and other communities on this matter.

Alderman Rossetti spoke about a survey being performed by a student at Harvard University and about a meeting with the mayor and impacted residents.

RESULT: **KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

200309: That the Administration arrange for Matrix Consulting to appear before this Board's Public Health and Safety Committee to report their findings on public safety.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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200216: That the City Clerk invite the Logan Airport Community Advisory Committee representative to this Board's next meeting to recommend action for the increased impact of Logan air traffic.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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200479: That the MassPort Community Advisory Committee seek to address Logan Airport noise, pollution, and traffic issues by sponsoring a regional citizens' forum, an online runway database, and federal research.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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200519: That the Chief of Police consider deploying body cameras for all police officers, and prepare a feasibility report within 30 days for this Board's Public Health and Public Safety Committee.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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200785: That the Supervisor of Inspectional Services monitor the gate at Maxwell's Green that prevents cars from entering Clyde and Warwick Streets, and enforce the original development permit by ticketing Maxwell's Green when the gate is left in the up position.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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200846: That the Administration inform this Board of efforts to assist Riverside Community Care, formerly at 78 College Avenue, in finding a new location for its mental health day treatment program.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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