



CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

E. Denise Simmons
City Councillor

Mayor
2008-2009
2016-2017

January 30, 2020

Mr. Anthony Wilson
Clerk of Cambridge
Cambridge City Hall

Re: Letter from City Manager Re Contract Extension

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am submitting the attached letter from City Manager Louis A. DePasquale, who is serving formal notice of his desire to enter into formal negotiations with the City Council to extend his contract with the City beyond January 2021. Please include this letter as a Communication from Other City Officers on the agenda of the February 3, 2020 City Council meeting, to be forwarded to the Government Operations Committee for further consideration. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

City Councillor E. Denise Simmons



City of Cambridge

Executive Department

LOUIS A. DePASQUALE
City Manager

LISA C. PETERSON
Deputy City Manager

January 30, 2020

City Councillor E. Denise Simmons, Chair
Government Operations Committee
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councillor Simmons,

I am writing to you in your role as Chair of the Government Operations Committee.

After careful consideration and consultation with my family, I am respectfully requesting the City Council to consider an extension of my current contract, which is set to expire in January 2021. Working together, the City Council and I have accomplished a great deal over the past three years, and I would like to see through several key initiatives which we are currently working on.

Next month, my team and I will be meeting with the three rating agencies and I fully expect the issue of my contract to be raised during the meetings. I would like to be able to tell them that we have begun discussions.

I believe that I have worked effectively with the City Council to make significant progress on its priority areas and goals. As a life-long resident of the best city in the Commonwealth, I have had no greater honor than to serve as your City Manager. There is much work still to be done and I would like to continue to collaborate with the City Council and residents to achieve further progress in several priority areas, including:

- Significantly expanding annual funding for affordable housing initiatives from all sources
- Continuing progress on major capital infrastructure projects such as the Tobin Montessori and Vassal Lane Upper School, fire station rehabilitations, Inman Square redesign, City Hall renovations, Harvard Square Kiosk and Plaza, Grand Junction and School Building Master Plan
- Expanding our long-term City facilities strategy to address future needs related to schools, fire stations and other City buildings
- Moving forward on the rollout of early childhood initiatives, including a universal pre-K program for four-year old's



- Advancing transportation initiatives such as Vision Zero, Complete Streets, and the expansion of bike lane infrastructure and bus lanes
- Addressing the concerns of small businesses, including the exploration of alternative taxation strategies
- Expanding climate change and sustainability initiatives
- Protecting our tree canopy by following through on the City's Urban Forestry Master Plan
- Supporting Cultural Art Districts and Arts initiatives
- Addressing forthcoming findings and recommendations contained in the Digital Equity Study
- Continuing to provide leadership on the Cambridge Health Alliance Board of Trustees to ensure that this critical safety net for our residents remains a vital resource in the community.

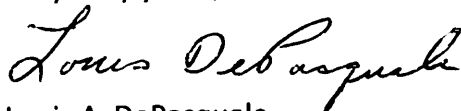
During the City Manager search process in 2016, one of the key areas I referred to was an expanded focus on community outreach and customer service for all of our residents. In my time as City Manager, we have initiated successful efforts to bring City Hall to the community through our events in the Port neighborhood and at the Fresh Pond Apartments. In addition, I created the first City Manager's Advisory Committee, which has provided valuable feedback on issues facing the City. We have also instituted a series of trainings for our employees to ensure residents who come to City Hall are provided the highest level of customer service.

Moreover, I have demonstrated that we can move forward on City Council priorities, including expanding City services while maintaining the City's strong financial position. At the same time, we have remained mindful of property tax bill increases to our residential and commercial property owners. Cambridge's financial position, the strongest in Massachusetts, has allowed us to achieve progress on countless initiatives over the last three years.

Together, our substantial advances in addressing key City Council priorities has received state-wide recognition, and I am particularly proud of our progress in the areas of affordable housing, school capital facilities and initiatives around climate change, sustainability and transportation. As I noted, there is still more work to be done and I would very much like to continue to lead that progress with the City Council.

I hope you will look favorably on my contract extension request and I look forward to discussing this request in the coming weeks.

Very truly yours,



Louis A. DePasquale,
City Manager