



City of Cambridge

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Calendar Item # 5
Amended Order
IN CITY COUNCIL
~~October 17, 2016~~
October 31, 2016

COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR DEVEREUX

- WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge contains a 115 acre rare climate adaptation center and urban wild state park along the Upper Alewife Basin in northwest Cambridge owned by DCR, called Alewife Reservation on the Mystic River watershed, with ponds, streams and a river and surrounding wetlands, meadows, scrub-shrub and tree groves along linear protected floodplain strips of biodiversity, including an endangered species registered with the state, for one linear mile to Belmont's Little Pond; and
- WHEREAS: These resources of over 90 bird and 20 mammal species benefit Cambridge and the region, and are well stewarded by Friends of Alewife Reservation; and
- WHEREAS: Alewife area was evaluated by the 2014 city Vulnerability Assessment Climate Study presented at MIT showing Alewife as the city's most vulnerable climate flood zone; and
- WHEREAS: Governor Baker issued a climate bill to the *Legislature* <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/executive-order-climate-change-strategy.pdf> which includes state-wide *adaptation* strategies for citizen protection during high waters, and conserve natural resources that build wetland/woodland resilience to impacts of climate change; and
- WHEREAS: Expanding footpaths could threaten the city's rare and diverse plants, animal, bird, fish and insect habitat, and functioning of these wetlands; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record as being opposed to any new walkway or sidewalk which might be developed by local property owners through any of the woodlands, marshes, or bordering land subject to flooding (BLSF) or bordering vegetated wetland (BVW) covered by the wetlands protection act ; or any building of a walkway through the natural resource habitat to create a pedestrian trail to the Alewife T stop from areas west and north of Little River; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to send a copy of this Resolution to the Cambridge Conservation Commission and the Belmont Conservation Commission for consideration in any development permitting proceedings under the Wetlands Protection Act regarding the Alewife Reservation or nearby lands that might come before that Commission.

In City Council October 31, 2016.
Adopted as amended by the affirmative vote of eight members.
Attest:- Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna P. Lopez".

Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk