



City Council
**Maintenance &
Development Meeting**

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Lavar Click-Bruce (Chair)

~Final~

July 27, 2026

5:00 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Click-Bruce, Chair
Councilor Maria Perez, Member
Council President Tracye Whitfield
Peter Garvey, Director of Capital Asset Construction
Associate Solicitor Robert Shewchuk
Cathy Buono, CAFO
Roy Goodman, Director of Elder Affairs

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Gerry Martin	City Councilor — Ward 7	Excused	
Maria Perez	City Councilor — Ward 1	Present	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Excused	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Excused	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Excused	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Absent	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Present	

Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Excused	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Present	

Call To Order

5:00 PM Meeting called to order on July 27, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Public Portion

1. **Appropriation Order for Taking for the German Gerena School Projects \$645,000 (Mayor Sarno)**
2. **Order of Taking of Land for the New German Gerena School**

Minutes:

On July 27, 2026, the Maintenance and Development Committee, chaired by Councilor Lavar Click-Bruce, reviewed a \$645,000 appropriation and an order to acquire three properties needed for construction of the new Gerena School. The properties include two vacant lots and one four-family property. Officials explained that the acquisition is a friendly eminent domain taking funded through PAYGO and that relocation expenses will be presented separately because acquisition and relocation costs are not eligible for 80 percent reimbursement.

The proposed school is approximately 138,000 square feet and will include 13 preschool classrooms, three classrooms per grade, and approximately 170 parking spaces. Officials are developing a traffic plan and expect the relocation of four families to take approximately four to eight months with assistance from a relocation specialist. The order was orally amended to reflect updated property ownership and recording information. The committee approved moving the appropriation and amended land-taking order to the full City Council.

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]