



City Council
**Sustainability &
Environment Meeting**

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

Victor Davila(Chair)

~Final~

August 4, 2026

11:00 AM

City Hall - Room 200

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Victor Davila, Chair
Frank Ryan
Denise Caputo
Jay Latorre

Zoom:

Alex Sherman, City Forester
Councilor Govan, Member
Attorney Ken Shea

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	Excused	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Excused	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Virtual	11:00 AM
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Present *L	11:12 AM
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Absent	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Excused	

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

Call To Order

11:00 AM Meeting called to order on August 4, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Public Portion

1. Continued Discussions on The Woodland Ordinance.

Minutes:

On August 4, 2026, the Sustainability and Environment Subcommittee, chaired by Councilor Victor Davila, continued its review of the proposed Woodland Ordinance. Representatives from SCANS, the City Forester, and the Law Department reviewed revisions to the summary document, including the results of a field study evaluating how the proposed ordinance could be applied to both small and large wooded parcels.

The committee discussed proposed survey methods, mitigation fee calculations, and the need for different approaches based on parcel size. Members reviewed how the ordinance could encourage responsible development while preserving significant woodland areas and protecting the City's environmental resources. The City Forester provided examples demonstrating how mitigation costs would vary depending on the size, number, and maturity of trees on a property.

The Law Department indicated the summary document was comprehensive and would be used to prepare a draft ordinance for committee review. Members agreed to continue refining the proposal, with a draft ordinance expected within three to four weeks before returning to the committee and, if appropriate, advancing to the full City Council for consideration.

Meeting adjourned: 11:42 a.m.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]